Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**

Do you support a proposal to grant a CNMI-only resident status to alien parents of U.S. citizen children in the Commonwealth?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

**Free Concert**

The Korean community on Saipan holds a cultural festival with a free concert.

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**4th of July**

The U.S. marks the 235th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

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**Success Story**

Brooke Elliott's "Drop Dead Diva" is one of TV's unlikelier success stories.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

Latest CNMI gross domestic product report next week. PAGE 5
Man with screwdriver attacks family, shatters car's window. PAGE 7

# 'UNFAIR JUSTICE'

## 5-year sentence for killer of Rota Marine

» Father: It's unfair for my son

» Nightly rosary, Mass for death anniversary

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota resident David M. Santos, 43, said justice has not been fully served in the death of his 21-year-old son at the hands of a fellow Marine in Afghanistan almost a year ago today.

See MARINE on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

In this file photo, an enlarged photograph of the late U.S. Marine Corporal Dave Michael Maliksi Santos of Rota is placed in front of the San Isidro Chapel in Sinapalo, Rota during a Mass before his funeral on July 29, 2010, some two weeks after the Rota resident was stabbed in the neck by a fellow Marine while they were both deployed in Afghanistan.

# Marpi power poles lawsuit to go to trial

## » Project on hold until after May 2012 trial

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo yesterday set May 1, 2012, as the trial date in the Friends of Marpi's lawsuit against the CNMI government over the power poles project in Marpi.

Govendo said the court-issued injunction that temporarily stopped the installation of the remaining power poles for 90 days will remain until after the trial.

There will be a status conference on March 6, 2012.

Govendo set the trial date after attorney David G. Banes and assistant attorney general Gilbert Birnbrich informed the court that

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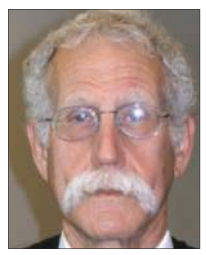

Govendo

## SINGAPORE: Sin City-State?

It seems an unlikely moniker for this strait-laced society best known for banning chewing gum and caning scofflaws for infractions as minor as overstaying a travel visa. Singapore, however, is poised to vault past Las Vegas next year to become the world's No. 2 gambling destination, behind Macao in southern China.

See story on Page 2

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# Local

# Singapore a mecca for gambling

By DAVID PIERSON
LOS ANGELES TIMES

*Editor's Note:* The Saipan Tribune *is reprinting this article to highlight the Singapore experience in light of recent moves to revive a casino industry on Saipan.*

DAVID PIERSON/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

The rooftop infinity pool at the Marina Bay Sands Singapore, the hottest new resort and casino in Asia, is the length of one-and-a-half football fields and is open only to guests.

**SINGAPORE**—Thousands of gamblers filled the sprawling Marina Bay Sands casino here on a recent weeknight, placing bets on baccarat tables, roulette wheels and dice games under the glow of a 7-ton Swarovski crystal chandelier.

With its high-stakes tables, dozens of invitation-only VIP rooms and sleek design, the Marina Bay Sands is the go-to hotel for visiting celebrities such as Justin Bieber and Katy Perry. And it's one of the reasons Singapore is poised to vault past Las Vegas next year to become the world's No. 2 gambling destination, behind Macao in southern China.

Singapore, Sin City-State? It seems an unlikely moniker for this strait-laced society best known for banning chewing gum and caning scofflaws for infractions as minor as overstaying a travel visa.

For half a century, Singapore has cultivated a reputation as a business-friendly nanny state that overcame its tight confines and dearth of natural resources to become one of the quintessential Asian Tiger economies. The government saw regulating its citizens' behavior and marginalizing critics as essential to its success.

But the fear of losing Asia's battle for tourism—and the prospect of creating thousands of local jobs—spurred Singapore to reconsider. The island nation has seen rising regional competition for its pillar industries, such as high-tech manufacturing and financial services, and has felt a need to diversify its economy.

To that end, the nation's 87-year-old founding father, Lee Kuan Yew, and his son, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, began championing the idea of casinos and an image makeover for uptight Singapore.

The city-state then lifted a decades-old ban on gambling and opened two sparkling new casinos last year—one operated by Las Vegas Sands Corp. and the other by Malaysian-owned Resorts World Sentosa—at a combined cost of more than $10 billion.

"The government is trying to make a virtue out of a vice," said Eugene Tan, an assistant professor of law at Singapore Management University. "They're trying to say, 'This is not the Singapore of old. It's a happening place with a bit of raciness.'"

Still, stodgy Singapore isn't willing to slap on the Mardi Gras beads just yet. Bent on reaping the economic benefits of gambling while minimizing such byproducts as addiction and crime, public officials are doing their best to make it tough on their own citizens to gamble.

Singaporeans and permanent residents must pay the equivalent of $80 for a one-day pass to enter one of the 24-hour casinos. Family members can blacklist relatives from playing if their loved ones show signs of problem gambling.

Casino operators are banned from promoting and advertising locally. Already, they have been ordered to take down websites naming winners of cars and cash and to halt free bus service from government-subsidized housing complexes.

"Most of my friends are like me. We don't want to pay the levy," said Jason Lee, a 39-year-old Singaporean who has yet to visit the casinos. "But I don't think it's going to do much to stop the hard-core gamblers. It's really not that expensive to them."

Regulators also have blocked highly profitable VIP junkets that allow third-party operators to bring in high-rollers from overseas. The practice, which is the backbone of Macao's success, is commonly associated with organized crime.

To make gambling more palatable to its critics, Singapore adopted a euphemism for the casinos by calling them integrated resorts. The operators had to offer additional attractions and could not dedicate more than 5 percent of their total floor space to the casinos.

Resorts World Sentosa, for instance, opened a theme park with Universal Studios and built a cluster of high-end family hotels as part of the casino resort.

Marina Bay Sands targeted conventioneers—and transformed the city's skyline—by constructing its hotel as three glass skyscrapers joined at the top by a sky park. The park, a stunning 57-story-high terrace, features an infinity pool the length of 11/2 football fields overlooking Singapore's financial district.

A glass pavilion nestled in the man-made freshwater bay below will be the site of two nightclubs, one opened by Steve Adelman of Hollywood's Avalon and the other by Michael Ault, a New York nightlife impresario.

Not everyone has been impressed. Before the resorts ever broke ground, the plan sparked a fierce debate in an autocratic country not known for political opposition.

Casino critics accused leaders of the People's Action Party, which has been in power even before Singapore declared its sov-

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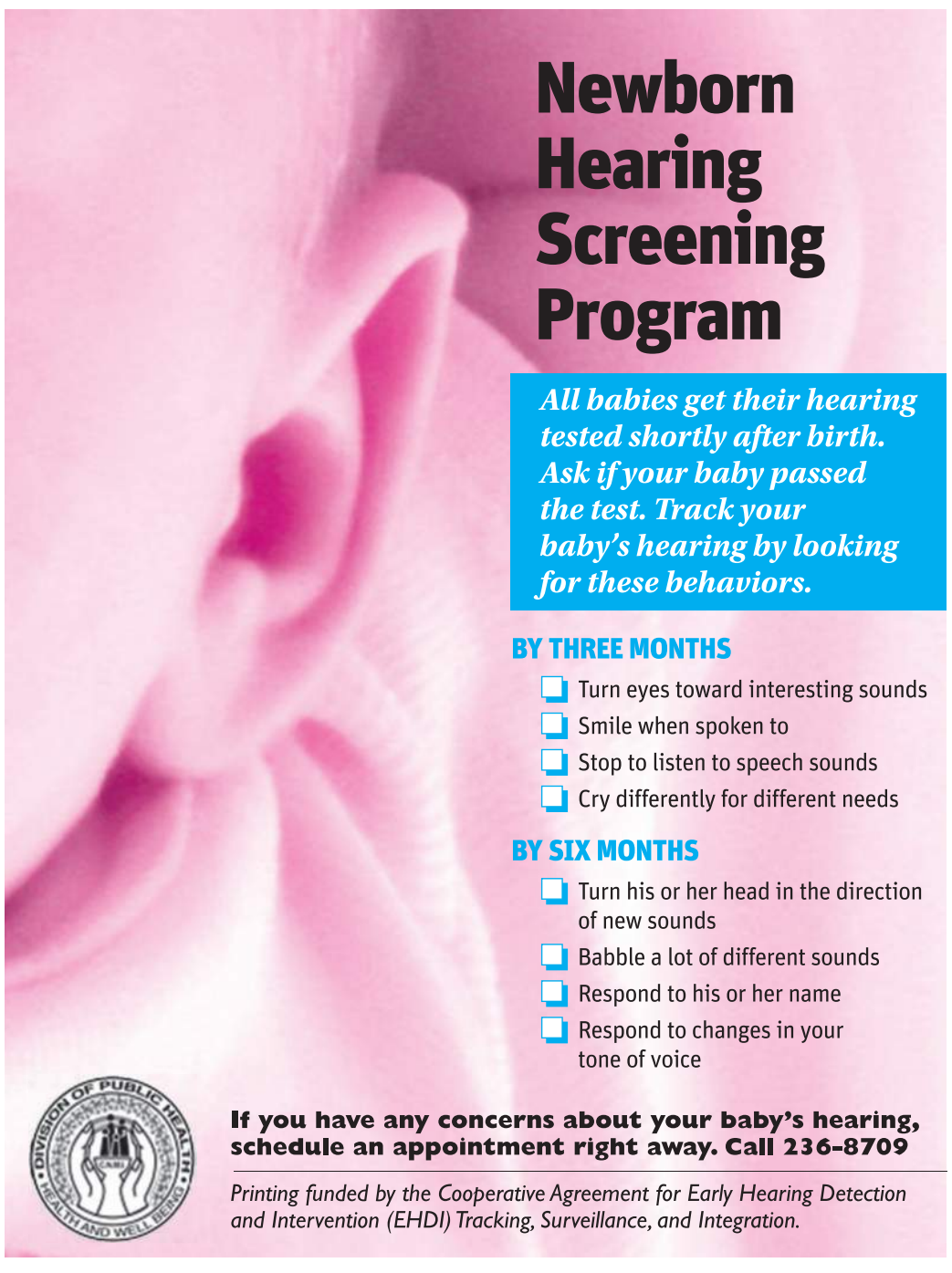
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# New NMC president will report for work Friday

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dr. Sharon Hart, the newly appointed Northern Marianas College president, was not able to report for work yesterday after her arrival was postponed to later this week.

Hart's first day of work was originally slated for yesterday, July 5.

In a visit to the campus yesterday, NMC management told *Saipan Tribune* that there was a slight change in Hart's schedule of activities due to her delayed arrival.

NMC did not elaborate on the reason behind the delay or who requested for the postponement. But the college assured that Hart will be on campus later this week to officially take over as its new chief executive officer.

NMC said she is expected to report for work by Friday. *Saipan Tribune* learned that the incoming CEO has plans to meet with some accreditation officials before flying to Saipan this week.

Barbara Merfalen, the dean of academic programs, was named acting president yesterday until Hart reports for work Friday.

Former interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, meantime, officially went back to her old position yesterday as director of the Adult Basic Education program.

Because of Hart's delayed arrival, NMC's management is now revising her schedule of activities.

Meantime, NMC ended its summer sessions last Friday with 184 enrollees. Its registration for the fall 2011 semester is slated from Aug. 15 to 20. Classes open on Aug. 22.

Starting on July 15, all NMC employees will observe the austerity Fridays until the end of the fiscal year in September as a result of a budgetary shortfall.

Last Friday, NMC was removed from the severe sanction of show-cause status and was placed on a lesser level of probation. It is expected to submit a report by Oct. 15 this year showing "proof" that all deficiencies have been addressed.

Hart, who was raised and born in Michigan and has spent almost 30 years in higher education, is expected to relocate to Saipan with her family.

In an early interview with *Saipan Tribune*, she vowed to bring a sense of stability and harmony to the college to effectively achieve its goals and mission. She also expressed a great desire to help the college raise money for its numerous programs and projects.

# 850 turn in SHEFA application for fall semester

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance received a total of 850 applications for the fall 2011 semester when it closed for business Friday noon. The number is expected to slightly increase in the coming days pending other applications sent through mail.

July 1 was the deadline to submit applications. SHEFA staffers confirmed that applications through mail would be counted provided they are postmarked on or before July 1.

By Sept. 30, all supporting documents must be in. These additional documents include class schedule, résumé, promissory note, career profile, and individualized degree plan which they can obtain from their schools' adviser.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the 850 applications comprise both new and ongoing students. The number of eligible students for the new semester will be known after review and assessment by SHEFA management and the board's approval.

SHEFA provides financial assistance to eligible students through its three programs: grant-in-aid, field of study, and incentive.

Applications for the fall semester 2011 is a slight increase compared to the spring 2011 semester applications, which totaled over 700. Of that number, only over 400 were approved.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider and board chair Jose Mafnas earlier disclosed that due to lack of funding to sustain all scholarship programs, the board is thinking of cutting anew the financial award amounts for the fall semester. SHEFA is allocated $3 million annually for its scholarship programs.

The board first slashed financial awards in April this year due to funding shortfalls. The reductions ranged from 25 percent to 50 percent and took effect in the spring semester.

Mafnas said that some programs may be terminated or suspended to sustain the operation of SHEFA this new semester. The board is awaiting the committee's recommendation.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the CNMI government, which uses poker revenues to fund scholarship programs, has funneled a total of $17.7 million to SHEFA programs since its inception in 2004. The amount represents financial awards and grants provided to scholars as of August 2010.

# Birnbrich is named permanent chief of OAG's Civil Division

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham has named assistant attorney general Gilbert Birnbrich as permanent chief of the Office of the Attorney General's Civil Division.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Birnbrich was named acting chief of the Civil Division to replace assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher at the end of April this year. After a month, Buckingham decided to make the appointment permanent.

Gallagher is now assigned at the OAG's Criminal Division.

"It's a very big responsibility and it's an honor to be appointed. It's a lot of work," said Birnbrich in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

As chief of the OAG's Civil Division, Birnbrich will supervise many lawyers and do administrative tasks, while handling his own cases.

Birnbrich used to work as law clerk at the U.S. District Court for the NMI. He later became an associate in attorney Colin Thompson's law firm.

Birnbrich joined the OAG last year. Among the many cases he has handled is defending the government and other agencies in the lawsuit filed by Friends of Marpi over the installation of power poles in Marpi. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

**TEEN ALK T** CLARISSA V. DAVID

Members of Teen Talk, a youth organization under the Public School System Youth Development Program, pose at the newly installed children's playground at the Susupe Beach Regional Park on June 24, 2011. The group helped Tan Holdings clean up and rehabilitate the park.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**Statewide Independent Living Council**
**"Yes I Can!"**
P.O. BOX 506296, SAIPAN, MP 95950
TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2011 Third General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, July 07, 2011 at the Chamolinian Room, Hyatt at 9:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

**AGENDA**

**I. Roll Call**
**II. Adoption of Agenda**
**III. Review and adoption of April 05, 2011 Minutes**
**IV. Reports**
- Chairman
- OVR Director
- CLI Director

**V. Old Business**
- Membership Training
- CLI Visit & Tour
- Membership Status

**VI. New Business**
- NDEAM
- SILC Congress representation

**VII. Announcements**
**VIII. Adjournment**

**In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman (Council Liaison) two days in advanced for necessary arrangements.**

/s/ Stephen Dutro
SILC Chairperson

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# 3 pct. increase in June vehicle sales

Automotive dealers sold one vehicle more in June compared to the same month last year, or from 34 to 35.

The Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association, in its latest sales report released yesterday, said they posted a 3-percent increase in sales in June.

Although a slight increase of one unit, the year-to-date sales is still a 25-percent decrease or from 301 in the first half of 2010 to only 233 units sold in the first six months of 2011.

Of the 35 new vehicles sold in June, 14 were from Joeten Motors, 13 from Triple "J" Motors, and eight from Microl Corp.

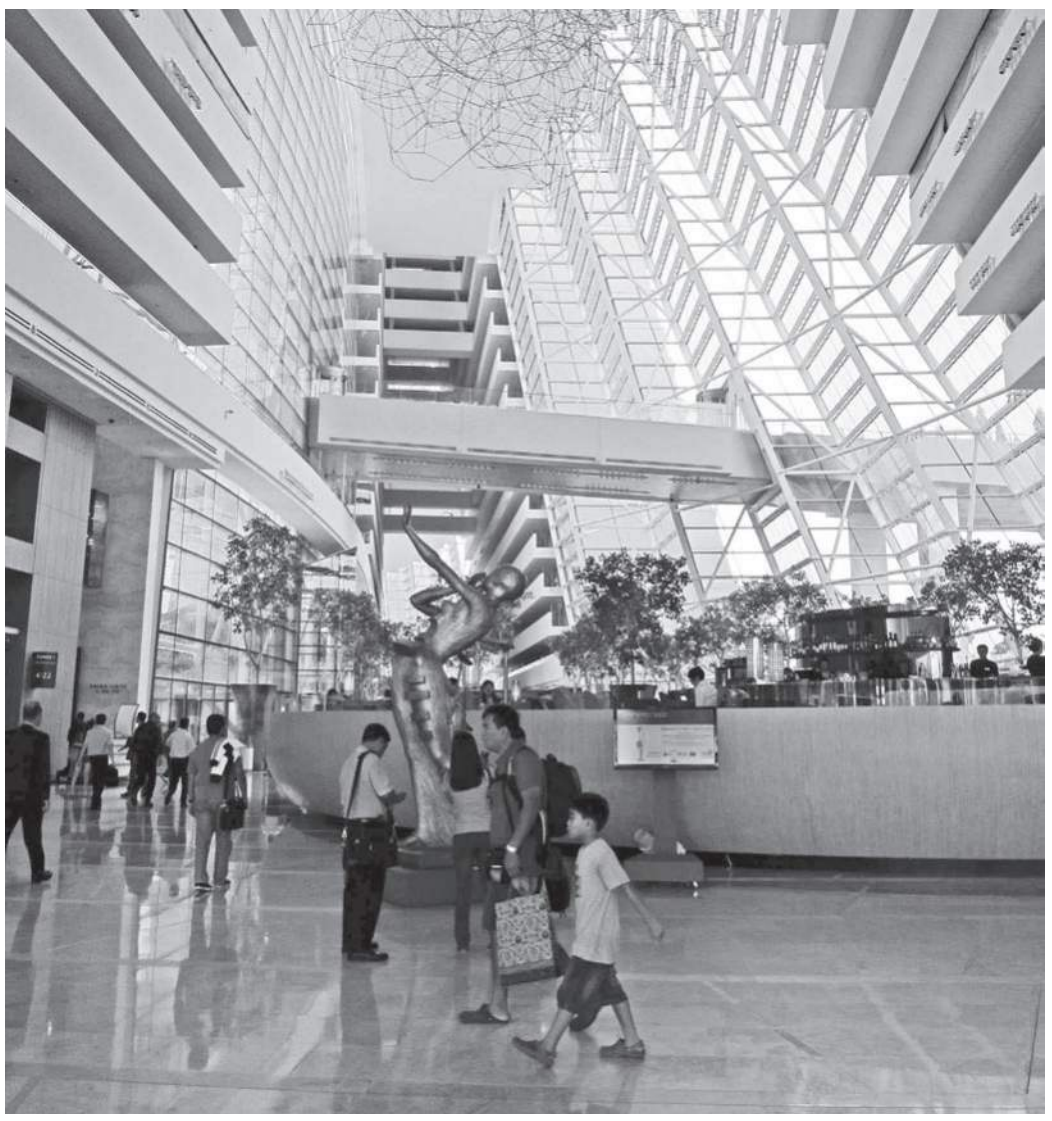
Cars again sold the most in June, with 12 units, followed by sport utility vehicles with 11. CADA also sold eight trucks and four vans.

The most saleable cars in June were Kia Soul, Mazda2 and Mazda3 with three units each. One unit each of Hyundai Accent, Hyundai Genesis Cp and Nissan Altima were also sold.

Among SUVs, Hyundai Santa Fe topped the sales chart with three units sold followed by Kia Sportage with two. CADA also sold one unit each of Mazda CX7, Mazda CX9, Nissan Pathfinder, Nissan Rogue, Toyota 4Runner, and Toyota Highlander.

Among the trucks sold were four units of Ford Ranger, three Toyota Tacoma, and one Nissan Frontier.

The only vans sold were three Toyota Sienna, and one Kia Sedona. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***



DAVID PIERSON/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

The hotel lobby of the Marina Bay Sands Singapore is decorated with a 14.8-ton stainless steel polyhedral sculpture by British artist Antony Gormley.

## SINGAPORE

*From Page 2*

ereignty as a republic in 1965, of undermining family values.

Simmering anger over the issue was said to contribute to the party's bruising performance in the May elections when it scored its smallest majority in five decades.

Other critics said the resorts underscored the government's lack of vision—calling it a quick fix that does little to resolve the country's economic challenges.

"They've run out of ideas," said Tan Jee Say of the opposition Singapore Democratic Party. "The casinos prey on human weakness to capture economic growth. Is this a long-term solution? I don't think so."

For now, at least, the strategy has given Singapore a boost.

Last year, a record 11.6 million tourists visited the country, and the two casino resorts were estimated to have accounted for 1.7 percent of Singapore's gross domestic product, the government said.

"Access to two large casinos in a prosperous city is a winning formula," said Huei Suen Ng, an analyst for brokerage CLSA in Hong Kong.

Ng estimates that the casinos contribute 90 percent of the resorts' total revenue. She said Singapore will likely match Las Vegas for gaming dollars this year at around $6.5 billion but then surge past it next year with estimated revenue of $8.1 billion.

Macao is still by far the biggest gambling site in the world, scoring $23.5 billion in gaming revenue last year.

The more Singapore's casinos grow, the greater the potential social fallout. Despite the hefty entrance tax, locals are suspected of constituting a higher percentage of visitors than originally intended, though no numbers have been reported. One lawmaker proposed tripling the fee. Meanwhile, treatment for gambling addiction is reportedly on the rise.

Janice Lin, a 21-year-old college student and Singapore native, said she's increasingly concerned about her parents, who park themselves in front of slot machines for hours at a time about five days a week.

"They'll come home at 4 a.m. carrying a bag of a thousand $1 coins and explain it's from the office, not the casino," she said. "I'm really worried. I don't have a say."

Lin said her parents also indulge in casino cruises that take passengers to international waters, one of the few ways Singaporeans could gamble before the resorts opened.

Demand for gambling was bottled up in Singapore for years, said Desmond Lam, an associate professor of marketing at the University of Macau and author of "The World of Chinese Gambling."

The urge to play is partly a reflection of the country's majority ethnic Chinese population, which Lam said has a predilection for risk-taking.

"Chinese people are superstitious," said Lam, who is a Chinese native of Singapore. "There's a belief that they can harness their luck and take control of the gambling table."

## MARINE

*From Page 1*

The defendant—Cpl. William Dalton—was found guilty of killing U.S. Marine Corporal Dave Michael Maliksi Santos of Rota.

Santos' family believes that Dalton should have been found guilty of second-degree murder which carries a sentence of 20 years to life imprisonment, instead of the lesser offense of involuntary manslaughter, which has a maximum sentence of 10 years and forfeiture of all rank, pay and status in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Dalton got a five-year sentence on June 27.

"We lost our son forever, and the man who took away his life got only five years jail time for involuntary manslaughter, and not murder. It's an unfair justice," Santos told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He said the trial and the light sentence just "reopened the wound."

The late Santos, who was born on Rota in 1989, was stabbed in the neck on July 16, 2010, by his fellow Marine, Dalton, in Marjeh, Helmand Province in Afghanistan, where they were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The older Santos said that despite a plea from him, his late son's wife Lotty Ann, his son's biological mother Charito Maliksi-Runge, and two of his son's fellow Marines during the sentencing hearing wherein they asked that the defendant be found guilty of second-degree murder, "it was to no avail."

A military jury of eight members spent over three hours to arrive at a verdict in the case.

### Involuntary manslaughter

The older Santos said the family has long been hoping and asking that the defendant be found guilty of second-degree murder.

"But he's only found guilty of involuntary manslaughter. And instead of 10 years, he was only sentenced to five years in prison. That hurts me and the whole family a lot. … What message does it send? That if you kill a fellow Marine, you will only be jailed five years. After that, he's a free man, he can go on with his life, while the family of the person whose life he took will forever carry the grief and sadness," the older Santos said.

David M. Santos and his son's adoptive mother Isabella Maratita flew from Rota to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina for the trial, which was scheduled for June 16 to 29. But the trial and sentencing lasted only until June 27.

They just got back to Rota this week.

"On June 27, the panel found him not guilty of second-degree murder, but found him guilty of only involuntary manslaughter," David M. Santos said in a phone interview from Rota.

John Santos, who is David M. Santos's brother and uncle of the slain Marine, said yesterday in a separate interview that it's bittersweet justice for the whole family.

"I feel sorry for my brother, for learning that the man who took away his son's life will only be jailed for five years," he said.

John Santos, who works at the Legislature, said it's unfair that the punishment for taking one's life is only five years.

The Santos family said it's hard to understand that their son would lose his life in the hands of a fellow Marine, when they were fighting a war against terror.

### 'Discrimination'

The grieving father said throughout the trial, he felt that there's discrimination against his son, in favor of the defendant.

"The defendant is a white man. All the eight members of the military panel were white. They didn't even know who the Chamorros are, that they are also U.S. citizens, and they favored the white man. They helped the man who murdered my son, but not us, who wanted justice for our son. … He stabbed my son to death, and he gets five years. I can't explain the grief, the pain, the suffering," he said.

The older Santos said he wasn't able to talk to the defendant, who he said has been dishonorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps.

"Like I said before, we could only hear the defendant's side, and not my son's side of the story," he added.

Dalton, he said, is 25 years old and will only be 30 when he goes out of jail.

David M. Santos said that after Dalton has spent some time at a military prison, he will be transferred to a civilian prison in Leavenworth, Kansas.

"My son was supposed to turn 22 on May 17. He was born in 1989," he said, adding that every Father's Day will be different.

He said his son's son is now 4 years old.

In news stories from North Carolina about the murder trial, the defense and prosecution painted staggeringly different pictures of what happened during that early morning of July 16, 2010, in Afghanistan.

### One-year death anniversary

As the one-year death anniversary of the late Marine draws closer, the family on Rota is now preparing for a nightly rosary and Mass, which will start on July 8, Friday, and end on July 16, Saturday.

The nightly rosary will start at 6:30pm, followed by Mass at 7pm, at the San Isidro-Saina Ina Church on Rota.

On July 16, the anniversary of the death, there will be a prayer ceremony or "responso" at the San Jose Cemetery on Rota where the late Marine was buried on July 29 last year.

Families and friends are invited to join the Santos family at the Rosary and Mass.

## MARPI

*From Page 1*

no negotiation between the parties was conducted to resolve the lawsuit.

Banes is counsel for Friends of Marpi and co-plaintiffs, while Birnbrich represents the government and co-defendants in the case.

At yesterday's status conference, Banes said they are open to talks to resolve the case but that the government is not serious about negotiations.

In an interview later, Friends of Marpi's Tina Sablan said that litigation was always, for them, a last resort. She said every effort was made prior to this lawsuit to meet with the government in good faith and offer potential solutions.

"Why is the government fighting so hard and expending so much of its limited resources to stop public appeals for transparency and more sensible alternatives?" Sablan asked.

To this date, she said, they still don't know the actual costs of this project, who has benefited, why no public hearings were held before the power poles went up, why no assessments were done, and why alternatives were not fully considered.

Birnbrich said that during his discussions with Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham and other government officials, the decision was that the government wants to pursue the project and respond to the lawsuit.

After the hearing, Birnbrich reiterated that the government believes "it has done nothing wrong."

"This case has without merit and we have every right to install all those power poles," Birnbrich said.

Tina Sablan noted that Friends of Marpi and many others who have opposed the power poles have called for two simple things:

- Greater transparency and public involvement in a project that impacts an area of tremendous historic and cultural significance, as well as natural beauty;
- Thorough consideration of more appropriate and cost effective alternatives for providing power to the public cemetery, including but not limited to solar energy and standalone generators.

The power poles are part of a $2.9 million project to build a Marpi public cemetery. The poles are supposed to supply power to the public cemetery and the CNMI Veterans Cemetery. Only two more power poles need to be installed to complete the project.

# Latest CNMI gross domestic product report next week

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Tony Babauta and representatives from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis will be presenting next week the 2008 and 2009 CNMI gross domestic product estimates.

This comes a year after the U.S. Commerce released in May 2010 the first federal report on the CNMI's GDP covering 2002 through 2007.

GDP represents the total value of goods and services produced by a country or territory.

Besides the presentation of the GDP report, House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said yesterday he is not aware of other issues that Babauta may discuss with lawmakers.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Cabrera issued a memo to all lawmakers on June 27, informing them of Babauta and other federal officials' visit.

They said that Nicole Mayerhauser and Aya Hamano of U.S. Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis will be presenting the 2008 and 2009 GDP estimates to the CNMI Legislature on Wednesday, July 13, at 1:30pm in the House chamber.

Manglona and Cabrera said that besides Babauta, also accompanying the representatives from U.S. Commerce will be Office of Insular Affairs economic Wali Osman.

The visiting officials are expected to present the 2008 and 2009 estimates for the major components of GDP, including consumer spending, private fixed investment, net exports, and government spending, as well as estimates of the major components of gross domestic income.

The CNMI's GDP showed a 4.2 percent average annual decline between 2002 and 2007, according to the first GDP estimates report on the CNMI, released on May 5, 2010.

That first report confirmed what everybody already knew: the CNMI economy, as well as its population, had been shrinking.

The total amount of products and services produced in the CNMI in 2002 was $1.32 billion as measured in the inflation-adjusted GDP, and steadily declined since then until reaching just $962 million in 2007.

The first report also highlighted an unpleasant fact: Of the four U.S. territories, it was only the CNMI that experienced an economic contraction. Guam's GDP grew at an average of 1.8 percent, while American Samoa increased at an average of 0.4 percent between 2002 and 2007. The U.S. Virgin Islands also posted an annual average GDP growth of 2.9 percent in the same period.

# PSS projects slight increase in enrollment numbers

## » New school year to open Sept. 5

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Public School System expects only a slight increase in its enrollment for school year 2011-2011, according to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that more solid data would be known this month after her meeting with school principals this month. Schools, she said, just opened their registrations.

"We actually projected our enrollment and we see a slight increase, but I won't have anything more firm until the July 11 meeting with all the principals," she said.

PSS ended the 2010-2011 school year with over 10,000 enrollees in its 20 campuses on three islands. Its five public high schools graduated 676 graduates this school year: Saipan Southern High, 151; Kagman High, 182; Marianas High, 262; Rota High, 31; and Tinian High, 50.

The school year 2011-2012 will officially open on Sept. 5 and Sablan assured that PSS is prepared, with an adequate number of teachers and safe school environment.

Repairs and renovation work in schools, as well as recruitment of replacement teachers, are ongoing.

Sablan said the 12 elementary education students who recently graduated from the Northern Marianas College may be hired by PSS for the upcoming school year.

She also disclosed that 20 PSS employees recently obtained their master's degrees, which will help them comply with the highly qualified personnel mandate.

As of Thursday last week, there were only 102 teachers who have yet to be classified as highly qualified teachers, pending their passing of the Praxis tests, according to Board of Education chair Marylou Ada. She expressed optimism that a large number of these teachers may soon comply with the HQT requirements when results come in.

Come July 31, non-HQTs will no longer be allowed to teach in public schools pursuant to the U.S. Department of Education's No Left Behind Act of 2001.

At present, 82 percent of public school teachers are HQT, which means they have degrees, valid certifications, and are Praxis compliant.

### USDOE visit

An official from the U.S. Department of Education, Christine Jackson, is scheduled to make a historic visit this month to Rota schools, said Commissioner Sablan.

Jackson will be meeting with Sablan on Rota on July 14.

The commissioner said that Jackson is part of a contingent of USDOE officials who will visit Guam this month. Upon learning of their visit to Guam, Sablan said she invited Jackson to also visit the CNMI.

Jackson, she said, chose to visit Rota schools—a first for the USDOE official.

"This is going to be a historic visit. She wanted to see our schools there and we're very happy to meet with her on Rota," Sablan said.

## 2011 – 2012 Application For Free School Meals is now available at all public schools and at the Public School System Central Office

**PUBLIC RELEASE STATEMENT REGARDING THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT LOCAL SCHOOLS**

The Public School System Food and Nutrition Services Program today announced its policy for children *unable* to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Regardless of financial standing and participation in programs such as WIC or NAP, a new free school meal application must be completed and submitted each school year to receive free school meal benefits.

Meal prices for the 2011-2012 school year will remain the same as the previous year. Students may buy a subsidized school breakfast for $0.50. Additional breakfasts can be purchased for $1.80 at elementary schools and $2.20 at secondary schools. Students may purchase a school lunch for $0.75. Additional lunches can be purchased for $2.85 at elementary schools and $3.40 at secondary schools.

Application forms are now available at the PSS Food and Nutrition Office and are being sent to all public schools with a notice to parents or guardians. Applications are available at Tinian Elementary School and Rota Junior High School as well. To apply for free meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school or to the PSS Food and Nutrition Services office. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The application can be downloaded at http://www.cnmipss.org/state-level-programs/administrative-services/food-and-nutritional-servicess/

To obtain free meals for children for whose households receive Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, an adult member needs only to list the names of the school children, give a food stamp case number for each child, sign his/her name and return the application to the school office. If *any* of the students do not have a valid food stamp number, then the entire application must be completed with accompanying verification documents.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free meals of households not receiving Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. In lieu of a social security number, the household may indicate that the signer does not possess a social security number. Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.). For verification purposes, copies of the most recent check stubs must be included with the application. Failure to include these items will delay the processing of the application.

Under the provisions of the free meal policy, the PSS Food and Nutrition Services Manager will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Mr. Dale Roberts, PSS Food and Nutrition Services Program Manager located on the third floor of the NMI Retirement Building.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the FNS Office. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals if the household income falls at or below the IEG levels listed in the chart, and they may reapply at that time.

In most cases, foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a household has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for free or reduced price meals, the household should complete an application for a family of one or contact the school for more information.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. PSS is authorized to release student free and school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs.

Application for Free School Meals— CNMI Public School System— Food and Nutrition Services
Part 1- List each Student's name and information. List names how they are registered at their schools. Write the Food Stamp Card Number if applicable
Student's Last Name
Student's First Name
Middle Initial
Date of Birth
Grade
School Name
Food Stamp #
Part 2- List all other members of the household. Do not include students listed above in part 1. Report all current income received last month.
Attach copies of last month's check stubs for income verification.
Names of All Household Members
Household Gross Income
Part 3- Signature and Social Security Number: An adult listed in Part 2 must sign the application and provide a social security number before it can be approved.
Categorical Eligibility: NAP
Income
Temporary until
DYS
Other
Total Monthly Income:
Household Size
Signature of Determining Official :
FNS Administrator,
Date:
List the names and info of each child attending school.
List the names of all other members of the household and any income.
One of the legal guardians listed in Part 2 must sign and date the form.

2011-2012 Federal Income Guidelines (IEG) for Free Meal Eligibility. If your household income falls within these guidelines your children MAY be eligible to receive free school meals.

| Household Size | Annual | Monthly | 2x per Month | Bi-weekly | Weekly |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | $ 14,157 | $ 1,180 | $ 590 | $ 545 | $ 273 |
| 2 | 19,123 | 1,594 | 797 | 736 | 368 |
| 3 | 24,089 | 2,008 | 1,004 | 927 | 464 |
| 4 | 29,055 | 2,422 | 1,211 | 1,118 | 559 |
| 5 | 34,021 | 2,836 | 1,418 | 1,309 | 655 |
| 6 | 38,987 | 3,249 | 1,625 | 1,500 | 750 |
| 7 | 43,953 | 3,663 | 1,832 | 1,691 | 846 |
| 8 | 48,919 | 4,077 | 2,039 | 1,882 | 941 |
| Add'l member, Add..... | + 4,966 | + 414 | + 207 | + 191 | + 96 |

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.

Children who received free meals last school year will receive free meals for up to 30 days after the opening of school on September 6, 2011. **To avoid delays in free school meal services due to processing, all applications should be completed and submitted to PSS FNS before September 23, 2011.**

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official. The PSS FNS office can be reached on Saipan: 237-3053/3060/3058/3050/3033/3055 or fax 664-3717, Tinian: 237-4106/4105, Rota: 237-4046/4041/4042

**Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence**
P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950 • E-mail: nmcadsv@pticom.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated team player to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

**Minimum Qualifications**
An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience with community organizing and/or outreach
Experience planning and executing training events
Demonstrated proficiency in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Ability to juggle multiple tasks and deadlines
Flexible schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to travel

**Extra consideration will be given for the following:**
1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration

*For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email nmcadsv@pticom.com.*
*No phone call inquiries, please.*

**Salary Range:** $14.00/hr ~ $18.25/hr (based on experience)

**Deadline and Submission Information**
Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on
**Friday, July 15, 2011.**

Applications can be submitted via email to nmcadsv@pticom.com, delivered to NMCADSV's office at the Spring's Plaza Building on Middle Road (north of XO Market), or mailed to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to submit a copy of Diploma or equivalent and a Police Clearance.

*This project is supported 100% by a grant to NMCADSV under the Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants to State Domestic Violence Coalitions issued by the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.*

**Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence**
P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950 • E-mail: nmcadsv@pticom.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
**PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated team player to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

**Minimum Qualifications**
An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience providing clerical and administrative support
Demonstrated abilities in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Flexible Schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to Travel

**Extra consideration will be given for the following:**
1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism.
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration.

*For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email nmcadsv@pticom.com.*
*No phone call inquiries, please.*

**Salary Range:** $10.00/hr ~ $14.00/hr (based on experience)

**Deadline and Submission Information**
Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m.
on **Friday, July 15, 2011.**

Applications can be submitted via email to nmcadsv@pticom.com, delivered to NMCADSV's office at the Spring's Plaza Building on Middle Road (north of XO Market), or mailed to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to bring a copy of Diploma or equivalent and a Police Clearance.

*This project is supported by Grant # 2010-AX-MU-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.*

# Inos: FY 2012 budget still at $102M

## »Senate follows House; OKs concurrent budget resolution

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos said the projected revenues available for government operations in fiscal year 2012 remains at $102 million by the July 1 threshold, a day after the Senate followed the House's approval of a concurrent resolution on a $102 million budget.

"So far we haven't seen any significant change," Inos said. "As of July 1, we didn't think that events…will allow for any major significant change in estimates."

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), for his part, said the Senate passed with reservation House Concurrent Resolution 17-3, House Draft 1 on Thursday.

Just like the Senate, the House grudgingly approved the concurrent resolution on Wednesday last week. Members believe that less than $100 million would be available for government operations in fiscal year 2012, but still adopted the resolution.

The House and Senate were expecting that the Fitial administration would submit a report to the Legislature on Friday any changes in projected revenues for 2012, but that report didn't come.

Inos said the Fitial administration didn't think there's a change in the $102 million budget, so there's no need to submit a report.

Inos, a former Finance secretary who currently oversees government finances, said the $102 million budget already takes into consideration the end of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant funding and the privatization of the Commonwealth Health Center.

Fiscal year 2012 will be from Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2012.

In related news, so-called non-critical government employees who didn't get paid last week may receive their paychecks today.

Since June 2010, the government has been delayed at least 17 times in issuing paychecks to "non-critical" employees because of cash shortage resulting from the slow economy.

# Police eye septic tanks for Luhk sisters

## »Disappearance of Luhk sisters marks 6th week

The disappearance of sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk marks its sixth week today with still no trace of their whereabouts.

As this developed, a source at the Department of Public Safety, disclosed over the weekend that investigators are now considering a search of septic tanks.

DPS refused to comment yesterday if any search was done in the last two days.

A DPS source said investigators may seek consent from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to search septic tanks located in selected locations. It is not clear, however, how the search will be conducted.

FBI special agents and DPS investigators had already conducted searches at a landfill, caves, jungles, beaches, cliff lines, underwater, villages, abandoned houses, and other areas. Many volunteers, including a tracking dog from Hawaii, joined some of those searches.

Despite a $50,000 cash reward put up for information on the whereabouts of 10-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Maleina, authorities have still failed to find the girls. No one has been arrested yet.

The girls were last seen near a bus stop pavilion in As Teo on May 25. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Fund board seek sanction vs Jorgensen

The NMI Retirement Fund's board of trustees and its three board members are asking the federal court to sanction attorney Bruce Jorgensen for filing a motion that allegedly contained improper allegations or is frivolous.

The Fund's board and board members Pedro Q. Dela Cruz, Sixto K. Igisomar, and Adelina C. Roberto wants the U.S. District Court for the NMI to remove Jorgensen's offending motion.

The defendants, through counsel Braddock J. Huesman, also asked the court to order Jorgensen to apologize and admit that the allegations were unsupported.

They also asked the court to fine Jorgensen in an amount enough to deter him from filing similar papers, and to administer any nonmonetary sanction it sees fit.

Instead of litigating the lawsuit in the Ninth Circuit or filing a paper citing to case law or discussing jurisdiction, Huesman said that Jorgensen filed a paper that made unsupported allegations, failed to discuss the appeal, and filed to discuss the adverse case law in this matter.

"This is unacceptable conduct for a reasonable man, who is a competent attorney admitted to practice before this court," Huesman said.

Jorgensen, on behalf of his clients—two unnamed CNMI government employees—are suing Gov. Benigno Fitial and the Fund over alleged non-payment of their retirement benefits.

The Fund has a pending appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit over the federal court's order that denied the Fund's motion to dismiss Jorgensen's lawsuit.

Despite the pending appeal, Huesman said the unnamed plaintiffs, through Jorgensen, filed on May 18, 2011, a request for status conference and motion to lift stay.

Huesman said the plaintiffs made no mention of the denial of the plaintiffs' motion to dismiss the appeal from the Ninth Circuit.

Additionally, Huesman said, the plaintiffs seek the same requests they have sought since the appeal started.

Huesman said Jorgensen alleges in the motion that he (Huesman) has a conflict of interest, but did so with no citation to the applicable conflict rules or actual evidence of conflict. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Palacios: Panel will not pursue certified question on casino bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations said yesterday that the panel has decided not to pursue the submission of a certified question to court on the constitutionality of a local bill legalizing casino gambling on Saipan.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said the committee is relying on a legal opinion from the House counsels stating that House Local Bill 17-44 is constitutional.

Palacios said it would be better for the bill to be acted on by the delegation first, and when there's challenge to its constitutionality, then that's the time the matter can be brought to court.

He and Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said the bill may be acted on in the next delegation session.

Today's delegation session may be cancelled. But even if it's not cancelled, the agenda does not include the casino bill.

But delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), in a separate interview, said if the JGO Committee has already made a decision, he would like to see this as part of the recommendation in a report on the bill.

He said he as an individual lawmaker would like to have the question on the constitutionality of the local bill addressed by the court at this stage, rather than wait for a later time.

Palacios's JGO Committee and Rep. Ray Yumul's (R-Saipan) Ways and Means Committee jointly held a series of public hearings on the bill, and received written and oral testimony on the bill.

The committees, along the office of Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), are now working on the report.

# Man with screwdriver attacks family, shatters car's window

A man armed with a screwdriver went inside a house in Koblerville early Saturday morning and attacked a family of three and shattered a car's windshield.

One of the victims, Sabrina Satur, sustained head trauma and was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment, police said.

Danny D. Disa, 24, was arrested later that day on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, burglary, criminal mischief, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at $1,000 cash and $9,000 unsecured bond.

Preliminary hearing will be on July 12 at 1:30pm.

A police investigation showed that Disa had entered the house and punched Mohammed Muslim in the back of the head and right shoulder. The suspect also allegedly punched Satur five times in the head and kicked her in the back. When Satur's daughter tried to help her, Disa allegedly slapped her in the face.

Disa then walked out of the house and punched the driver's side windshield of a Toyota Tercel, causing the windshield to shatter.

Disa then allegedly attacked Muslim with a screwdriver. The victim managed to seize the screwdriver and throw it away. The suspect also grabbed Muslim's cell phone and threw it away.

Police officers who responded to the victims' house saw bloodstains on the floor and on the front door. The officers recovered an eight-inch long screwdriver with bloodstains on it from the right side of the house.

A police officer then radioed that a man with bloodstains in his hands was seen near the Han Nam Market in Koblerville. Police brought Muslim to the site where he identified the man as the suspect (Disa).

The report did not indicate the motive behind the attack. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

**MURAL PROJECT**

The University of Guam, Mangilao Mayor and Vice Mayor's office, and volunteers from the Chuukese Sports Association, the Air National Guard, the Mangilao Knights of Columbus, and the Padre Palomo Assembly Knight of Columbus began work yesterday on creating a new mural which will brighten one of the village's largest concrete walls on Route 10. UOG art professor Joe Babauta created the artwork that will be painted on the wall, but yesterday's work focused on water blasting and site preparation. UOG Field House director Bob Pelkey and his team of volunteers got to work early yesterday morning. "It will take us until Thursday to complete our site preparation," said Pelkey. "We are still accepting volunteers as well as donations of food and water for our volunteers. So if you are driving by, feel free to stop and lend a hand or thank the volunteers with a bottle of water." Photo shows UOG president Robert Underwood and Pelkey looking on as members of the Chuukese Sports Association take a break from water blasting to pose for the camera.

UOG

UOG

# Orsini voted MHS student council president

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School students selected Vinni Orsini as its new council president, tasked to represent them in various issues affecting student learning.

Orsini told *Saipan Tribune* that he was motivated by his peers to run for the position before classes ended last month.

"I was encouraged to run for president by my classmates and I was scared because it was just my first year in MHS. I wasn't really confident, but I realized if I wanted to speak up for people and represent them in the future, then I should start by making a difference in high school," he said yesterday, adding that he was surprised that people were so nice when he went around campus asking for votes.

Even the meanest looking people, he said, turned out to be very friendly when Orsini asked for their support and he was able to make new friends along the way.

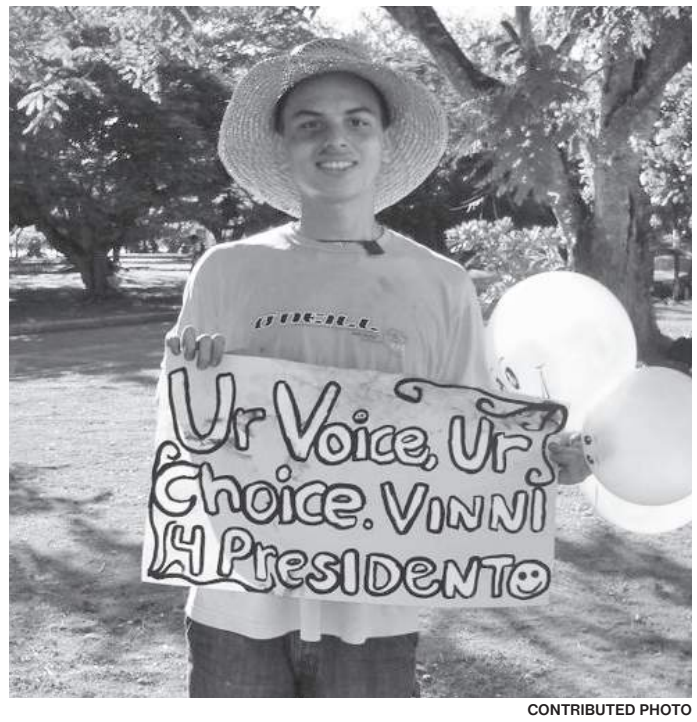
"This made me realize that anyone is capable of doing something they would have never done before. I began to see that everyone has the potential to be a friend. This election made me realize you don't have to only talk to your group of friends. MHS is a big school and everyone has a unique way of thinking and everyone has unique ideas that you would not have known if you walked by them without even smiling at them," he said.

When asked about his leadership priorities, the newly elected council president vowed to improve the participation of both students and parents in the school's various programs and activities. MHS is home to over 1,000 students each year.

"My No. 1 priority is to get more people involved in school events. A lot of times, students don't have the clothing style set for a spirit dress day, and so I want to try to actually decorate the hallways for as many holidays as possible because, then, everyone would be able to feel the spirit! A good friend of mine suggested we have an eco-week and I like that idea. Another friend suggested we have an 'emotional evaluation' day and I like that idea, too. There are a lot of other ideas and I know that our principal has a good way of making ideas come to life," said Orsini.

The sophomore student pointed out that the school's student council plays a pivotal role in the success of enrollees and the school.

"Student councils are vital to any school, especially one as large as MHS. I think the teachers have enough on their plate, so it's really up to the students to create fun things to do besides sitting in a classroom all day. I like student councils, because even if I do not get paid for it, I do it because I love it, and I like helping out, even if it is only by contributing ideas. It seems that in every aspect of life, students are never taken seriously, but in school, the students are No. 1, and we need fellow students to make sure we keep it that way," added Orsini.




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly elected Marianas High School student council president Vinni Orsini holds up a campaign poster.


SHIPPING SCHEDULE

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MELL SENTOSA | 057E | 6/25 Sat | 6/23 Thu | 6/23 Thu | 6/21 Tue | 6/18 Sat | 7/1 Fri | 6/27 Mon | 6/26 Sun | 6/19 Sun | 6/19 Sun | 6/27 Mon | 7/1 Fri | 7/3 Sun | 7/5 Tue |
| MELL SARACA | 049E | 7/2 Sat | 6/30 Thu | 6/30 Thu | 6/28 Tue | 6/25 Sat | 7/8 Fri | 7/4 Mon | 7/3 Sun | 6/26 Sun | 6/26 Sun | 7/4 Mon | 7/8 Fri | 7/10 Sun | 7/12 Tue |
| MELL SEMAKAU | 019E | 7/9 Sat | 7/7 Thu | 7/7 Thu | 7/5 Tue | 7/2 Sat | 7/15 Fri | 7/11 Mon | 7/10 Sun | 7/3 Sun | 7/3 Sun | 7/11 Mon | 7/15 Fri | 7/17 Sun | 7/19 Tue |
| MELL SENTOSA | 058E | 7/16 Sat | 7/14 Thu | 7/14 Thu | 7/12 Tue | 7/9 Sat | 7/22 Fri | 7/18 Mon | 7/17 Sun | 7/10 Sun | 7/10 Sun | 7/18 Mon | 7/22 Fri | 7/24 Sun | 7/26 Tue |
| MELL SARACA | 050E | 7/23 Sat | 7/21 Thu | 7/21 Thu | 7/19 Tue | 7/16 Sat | 7/29 Fri | 7/25 Mon | 7/24 Sun | 7/17 Sun | 7/17 Sun | 7/25 Mon | 7/29 Fri | 7/31 Sun | 8/2 Tue |
| MELL SEMAKAU | 020E | 7/30 Sat | 7/28 Thu | 7/28 Thu | 7/26 Tue | 7/23 Sat | 8/5 Fri | 8/1 Mon | 7/31 Sun | 7/24 Sun | 7/24 Sun | 8/1 Mon | 8/5 Fri | 8/7 Sun | 8/9 Tue |

| Inbound from Asia | Voyage No. | ETA Guam | ETD Guam | ETA Saipan | ETA Yap | ETA Koror | ETA Davao | ETA GenSan | ETA Cebu | ETA Hongkong | ETA Kaoshiung | ETA Busan | ETA Yokohama | ETA Manila | ETA Singapore |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MELL SENTOSA | 057E | 7/9 Sat | 7/10 Sun | 7/10 Sun | 7/12 Tue | 7/13 Wed | 7/15 Fri | 7/17 Sun | SKIP | 7/22 Fri | 7/23 Sat | 7/28 Thu | 8/16 Tue | 7/31 Sun | 7/27 Wed |
| MELL SARACA | 049E | 7/16 Sat | 7/17 Sun | 7/17 Sun | SKIP | 7/20 Wed | 7/22 Fri | 7/24 Sun | SKIP | 7/29 Fri | 7/30 Sat | 8/4 Thu | 8/23 Tue | 8/7 Sun | 8/3 Wed |
| MELL SEMAKAU | 019E | 7/23 Sat | 7/24 Sun | 7/24 Sun | 7/27 Wed | 7/27 Wed | 7/29 Fri | 7/31 Sun | SKIP | 8/5 Fri | 8/6 Sat | 8/11 Thu | 8/30 Tue | 8/14 Sun | 8/10 Wed |
| MELL SENTOSA | 058E | 7/30 Sat | 7/31 Sun | 7/31 Sun | SKIP | 8/3 Wed | 8/5 Fri | 8/7 Sun | SKIP | 8/12 Fri | 8/13 Sat | 8/18 Thu | 9/6 Tue | 8/21 Sun | 8/17 Wed |
| MELL SARACA | 050E | 8/6 Sat | 8/7 Sun | 8/7 Sun | 8/11 Thu | 8/10 Wed | 8/12 Fri | 8/14 Sun | SKIP | 8/19 Fri | 8/20 Sat | 8/25 Thu | 9/13 Tue | 8/28 Sun | 8/24 Wed |
| MELL SEMAKAU | 020E | 8/13 Sat | 8/14 Sun | 8/14 Sun | SKIP | 8/17 Wed | 8/19 Fri | 8/21 Sun | SKIP | 8/26 Fri | 8/27 Sat | 9/1 Thu | 9/20 Tue | 9/4 Sun | 8/31 Wed |

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# 2-week summer course on marine resources

Saipan high school students are invited to attend a two-week summer course that aims to provide them an opportunity to learn first-hand of the fishing environment and industry currently established in the Commonwealth.

The 4th Annual Saipan High School Summer Course on Marine Fisheries and Resources will be held on July 11-22, 2011, Monday to Friday, from 8:30am to 3: 30pm, at the Division of Fish and Wildlife conference room in Lower Base.

The summer course will feature guest lectures, class activities, hands-on presentations, and field trips. Students will learn about the biology and diversification of fish species common throughout CNMI's water and the various fishing techniques commonly practice by local fishermen. Students will also learn about marine environment and the regulatory measures established to protect, develop and manage the resources.

Topics will include fish biology and fish habitat, coral reef, marine preserves/sanctuaries, fishery data and creel sampling, cultural and traditional fishing, fish cleaning and preparation, fisheries conservation and management, fisheries economics and marketing, fishing gear and techniques, fisheries research, fishery rules and regulations and statutes, marine debris, fishery enforcement program, seafood safety, stock assessment, and CPR and first aid certifications.

Students interested in participating in this course should submit their applications no later than July 8, 2011.

Students from neighboring islands must arrange own air transportation and accommodation. Students are responsible for their own lunch. Students must participate in all lessons/activities and be able to participate in future workshops as schedule permits. Students must be entering or finishing grades 10-12. Parental consent and waiver forms must be complete; registration is limited to 12-15 students.

This summer course is sponsored by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Commerce-NOAA.

For more information and to get an application form, contact Richard B. Seman at 664-6000 or Jack Ogumoro at the Department of Lands & Natural Resources in Lower Base, 3229830/34 or fax 322-2633, or email marfishmag@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

**WELCOME HOME** NICHOLAS WEILBACHER BENJAMIN

Sgt. Kennedy DLG. Benjamin is reunited with his parents, Nick W. and Elaine DLG. Benjamin, and family members in Honolulu after completing his one-year tour of duty in Iraq. Sgt. Benjamin is with the 305th Company MPAD, a Reserve Unit out of Hawaii.

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Royce Angelo R. Ben, who is celebrating his special day today, July 6, 2010! You have always made us proud. Our blessings and support are always with you. May God bless you with all you desire in life. Happy 10th birthday! Enjoy your special day.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings going out to Lanea Ricci Martin who is celebrating her birthday today, July 6, 2011, God bless and many more birthdays to come. Greetings coming from all your families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## PACIFIC BRIEFS

### Rifles, grenades take 30 lives in PNG tribal fights

**PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea** (PNG Post-Courier/PIR)—Two separate tribal fights in Laiagam, Enga Province, have claimed the lives of more than 30 people. Sparked by land issues, the fights erupted near the Laiagam station and Pilikambi High School where combatants are engaged in guerrilla type tactics using high powered weapons which include grenades. In the latest ambush, two men and their wives were walking along the road when their enemies shot them dead, Provincial Police Commander Martin Lakari said. In the Pilikambi fight, two women and five men were killed in June while the number of deaths in the fight between the two factions from the Pyain tribe near Laiagam station is believed to be more than 20 as the hit and run battles occur in the jungles and banks of the Lagaip River. Nine people were killed by the end of May after the fight erupted in mid April.

### Company offers $26 million to prospect off Cooks

**RAROTONGA, Cook Islands** (Cook Islands News/PIR)—Canadian banking group Endeavour Financial has made a fresh, CA$25 million [US$26 million] offer to the Cook Islands government for an exploratory license for manganese nodule mining. But the company appears to have been largely ignored by the government in its latest attempts to obtain a license. Cook Islands News was told by a source close to Endeavour that it had received no official response from the government in the months since it lodged its application. By the time of publication yesterday afternoon, the Ministry of Minerals and Natural Resources had not returned CINews requests for comment on the issue.

### Tonga sea cucumber depleted, exports down

**NUKUALOFA, Tonga** (Matangi Tonga/PIR)—As the sea cucumber harvesting season continues into its second month after a slow start in Tonga, 12 licenses have been issued to local operators for the 2011 harvesting season for export of a reduced quota of 100 tonnes of dried beche de mers. The Ministry of Fisheries on July 1 confirmed that the licenses were issued last month in June to only 12 local operators who had paid their licensing fee. Tongatapu and Vava'u received three licences for each group, while four licenses were issued in Ha'apai and one each in Niua and Ata. The number of licenses this year dropped in comparison to the 23 licenses issued in 2010 to local operators, who in return exported 312 tons to Asian markets.

### Copra can't meet alternate energy demand

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (RNZI/PIR)—Oil companies and electricity providers in Samoa say they would like to produce more coconut oil to lower fuel prices but they just can't process it on a large enough scale. Copra is the meat of a coconut which is processed into coconut oil and the managing director of the Pacific Oil Company, Etuale Sefo, says they aren't getting enough coconuts to meet export demands. He says they have the facility to process significantly more coconuts and in-turn increase exports. "For example we're getting something like 100-120 tons of copra per week at the moment but the capacity of oil mill is much more than that, we can process double or even triple that volume of copra."

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### July 6, 1999

#### WPEC opposes any takeover proposal

Business leaders have expressed opposition against compromising the Covenant provisions to allow the federal government to control local immigration, minimum wage and customs standards on the heels of several legislation under consideration by the U.S. Congress. The Western Pacific Economic Council (WPEC) has issued its position on the federal takeover proposals awaiting actions in both houses of the Congress, noting the relentless attacks and accusations against the Northern Marianas in recent months. "WPEC cautions against any deviation from the position that the CNMI Covenant should be protected at all costs," the group said in a statement. "WPEC cautions against any change in position where total local control of immigration and minimum wage should be protected."

#### American Memorial Park to get facelift

The American Memorial Park will soon get a much-needed facelift once a proposal to float bonds worth $2 million is approved by the CNMI government to finance three key projects in the popular recreation site, according to Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan. Anticipated to be completed before 2001, the plan will call for improvement of the nature trail as well as the construction of a track and field oval and a flower-bearing garden to be called the Marianas Memorial Garden within the park grounds. In an interview with reporters last Friday, Sablan said the Commonwealth Development Authority and the Marianas Public Land Trust will jointly undertake the proposed bond flotation.

### July 6, 2000

#### CPA criticized for increasing airport fees

A top official of Japan Airlines yesterday warned the CNMI government against imposing additional fees at Saipan International Airport to prevent aircraft carriers from transferring to neighboring island Guam. Yukiharu Enomoto, district manager of JAL, said the CNMI should consider implementing incentives to lure more airlines into the Northern Marianas just like Honolulu and Guam airports which both earlier waived landing fees for a certain period. Speaking before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting, the JAL executive criticized the recent 65 percent increase in aircraft landing fee and 38 percent hike in passenger facility charge carried out by the Commonwealth Ports Authority in March 2000 at this time when airlines are having difficulty to survive due to the slowdown in the island's tourism economy.

#### CUC to carry out reforms

The board of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is reviewing recommendations that will reform its operations and policies, which officials hope will improve its services to the community. Board Chair Jesus T. Guerrero said that while CUC has focused on the Saipan power project, other issues and concerns continue to draw much-needed attention. "The board has spent a good deal of its time reviewing operations policies and practices, completing draft internal guidelines for the expenditure of official representation accounts, clarifying utility extension policies, which will now undergo internal review before final publication," he told a recent meeting.

### July 6, 2001

#### Landfill bidding may reach court

Lawyers of losing joint venture bidder Western Equipment, Inc. and DRC Pacific, Inc. said they will exhaust all legal remedies to get the multi-million dollar contract for the construction of the Marpi Solid Waste Facility, even it means going to court. "We'll pursue all our legal remedies. At the moment, we're waiting for their response," said Bruce Mailman, one of the legal counsels for WEI-DRC. Mailman said the government "can't just sweep" the bidding process that will eventually turn out to be a "mockery of the regulation" if the contract is eventually awarded to the joint venture of Dick Pacific Corporation and Pacific Drilling Ltd.

#### 'Save kindergarten program'

Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara has expressed concern over the impending closure of the Public School System's kindergarten program due to funding woes and promised to look into the matter to find ways to save the program. In an interview yesterday, Ichihara told reporters that when she heard of the plan to close down the kindergarten program, she was disturbed. "As a former teacher, I was concerned and I hope that our government will be able to find funding for this so that the kindergarten program would continue to be provided for. I know that the program is not compulsory but it is essential in providing for a strong foundation for our children's education," she said.

The Vicero Voice Ensemble

# Visiting Korean performers take part in cultural festival

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Korean community on Saipan celebrated this year's cultural festival with a free concert from guest performers at the Korean Presbyterian Church Sunday night.

The Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers, the four-member Vincero Voice Ensemble, and at least seven dancers from the Sang-Myung University Dance Company graced the concert organized by P,Art Music Academy with dazzling performances.

Since 1994, the P,Art Music Academy of Saipan has been inviting dance companies and other performing artists from Korea to celebrate Korean culture and to join in the Liberation Day festivities.

Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers, meanwhile, is composed of young singers age 10 to 13 years accompanied by conductor Ko Seok Woo.

The Korean visitors capped its performance on island with a presentation Monday night at the Liberation Day grounds at Garapan Fishing Base.

"Our Liberation festivities and parade have been extra exciting and memorable because of all the engaging performances by previous Korean groups brought in through P,Art Music Academy," said Mayor Donald Flores. "The various traditional and modern dances and music surely brings a taste of Korean culture to our island."

The guest performers, who arrived on Saipan last July 2, are scheduled to head home today.

The members of the Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers form a line as they sing "Do Re Mi" from the Sound of Music.

Two young female members of the Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers sway to the beat.

Sang Myung University dancers perform a number.

Two members of the Vicero Voice Ensemble belt out a song, with the Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers in the background.

The Daejeon Rainbow Little Singers as they perform the hit song from the Wonder Girls, "Nobody."

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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## Rep. Giffords' care should be for everyone

**By MIKE ERVIN**
PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

We all should be as lucky as Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

After taking a bullet to the head, she not only survived but she's now been released from the rehabilitation hospital where she has lived since Jan. 26.

She's been very fortunate to be getting high-quality, extensive rehabilitation and support. Many Americans with brain injuries and other disabilities who need a similar level of assistance are simply out of luck.

It was reported that Giffords will continue outpatient rehabilitation therapy at her husband's home in the Houston area while also receiving 24-hour in-home assistance. But as National Public Radio and ProPublica reported, this type of brain injury rehab is not available to American soldiers who sustain brain injuries, since it is not covered by TriCare, the Pentagon's health insurance plan for military personnel.

Beyond the military, only five of the 12 major private health insurers pay for rehab like Giffords', according to the same report.

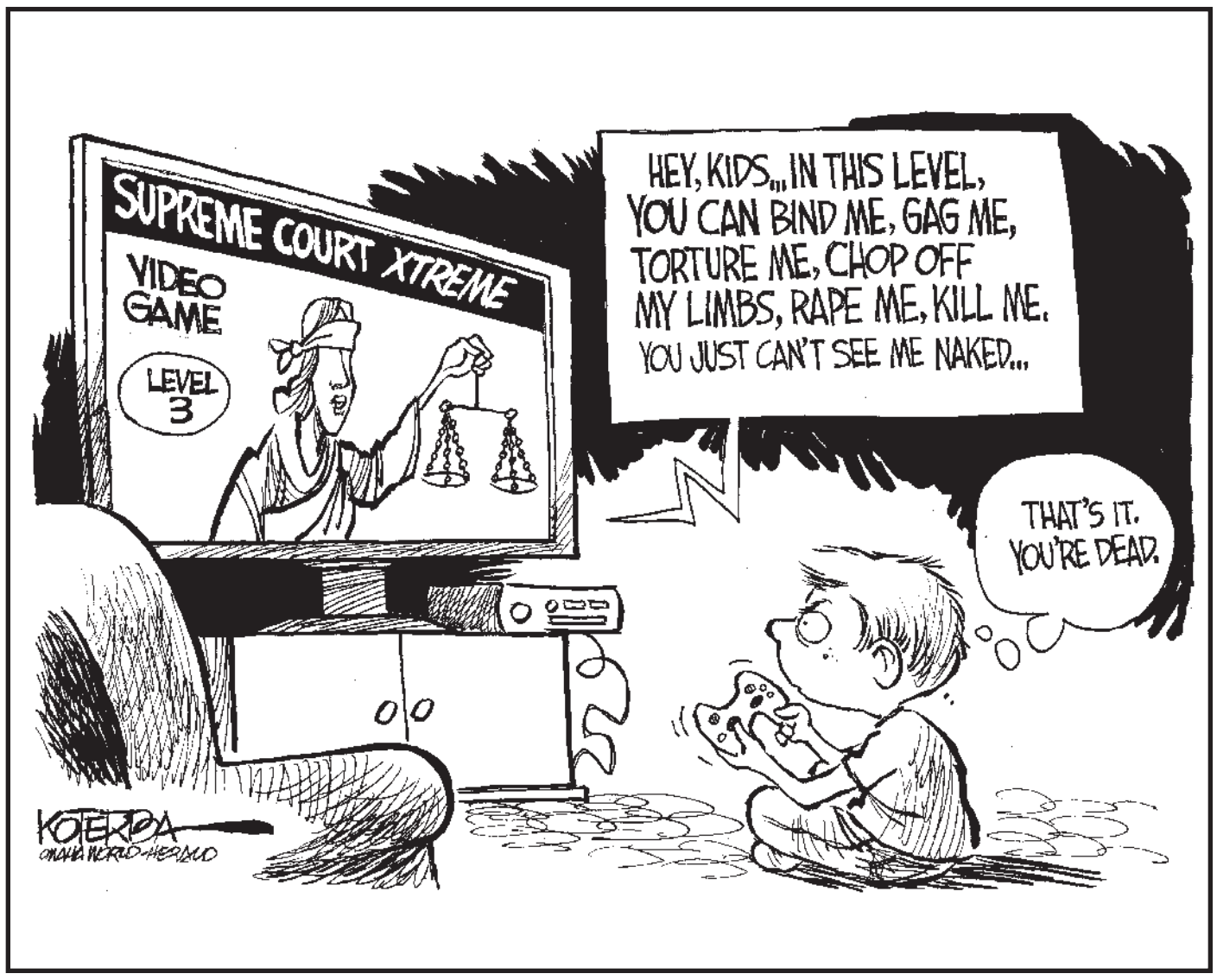
Since Giffords was injured on the job, her rehabilitation is covered by workers' compensation under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. But what about those who don't have jobs covered by workers' comp or those who have lost their jobs and thus their health insurance? They would likely receive only basic emergency trauma care. Who would pay for their 24-hour in-home assistance? They may well end up dumped into a nursing home.

Pia Carusone, Giffords' chief of staff, sent a letter in April to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius urging HHS to include comprehensive cognitive rehabilitation as part of the essential benefits package of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"When someone sustains a brain injury," Carusone wrote, "rehabilitation of sufficient scope, duration and intensity is necessary to regain lost skills and learn new compensatory strategies. ... With proper treatment, we know that individuals, like Congresswoman Giffords, who sustain even the most severe injuries can live healthy, independent and productive lives."

We all cheer for a happy ending for Giffords. She deserves whatever support she needs to gain and maintain control of her life. And all other people with disabilities deserve this, too.

*Mike Ervin is a disability-rights activist with ADAPT (www.adapt.org). He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with* The Progressive *magazine.*


SUPREME COURT XTREME
VIDEO GAME
LEVEL 3
HEY, KIDS... IN THIS LEVEL, YOU CAN BIND ME, GAG ME, TORTURE ME, CHOP OFF MY LIMBS, RAPE ME, KILL ME. YOU JUST CAN'T SEE ME NAKED...
THAT'S IT. YOU'RE DEAD.
KOTERBA

## Robert M. Gates will be a hard act to follow

**By KEVIN FERRIS**
*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

*Kevin Ferris is assistant editor of the Editorial Page of the* Philadelphia Inquirer*. Readers may write to him at:* Philadelphia Inquirer*, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at kf@phillynews.com.*

Robert M. Gates will be a tough act to follow as defense secretary.

Gates leaves office this week. He summed up the highlights of his tenure as Pentagon chief last month in a commencement address at the U.S. Naval Academy.

He took office in December 2006, "during the toughest stretch of the Iraq war ... casualties were at their highest, and prospects of success uncertain at best. At the time, the Taliban were making their comeback in Afghanistan, and history's most notorious terrorist was still at large."

Today, he pointed out, "Iraq has a real chance at a peaceful and democratic future; in Afghanistan, the Taliban momentum has been halted and reversed; and Osama bin Laden is finally where he belongs."

Any one of those would be a significant milestone. All three happened on Gates' watch.

Don't get the wrong idea, though. Gates' speech was not a "look what I did" moment. In fact, he was contrasting these significant bookends of his time in office to make two points about others:

First, he was applauding the graduates before him because they had made the decision to serve their country and entered the Naval Academy, despite the extremely difficult times for the military and the nation.

Second, he was giving credit where it belonged for the dramatic change in the war on terror's circumstances, to "the skill and sacrifice of countless young warriors and patriots."

Paying attention to those who do the fighting—and too often the dying—in the nation's wars has been a hallmark of Gates' time at the Pentagon. Though brought in by President George W. Bush to redirect the attention of Washington's unwieldy political and defense establishment on the surge and new counterinsurgency strategy in Iraq, Gates never lost sight of those he was responsible for sending into harm's way.

"I have come to work every day with a sense of personal responsibility for each and every young American in uniform—as if you were my own sons and daughters," he said in Annapolis.

When Gates took over at Defense, there was still a debate over whether the million-dollar price tag for each "mine-resistance ambush-protected" vehicle (MRAP) was worth the cost. For Gates, it wasn't even a question. He spent billions to get as many heavily armored troop carriers into Iraq and Afghanistan as quickly as possible. Then he followed the program closely. As the Los Angeles Times noted, he was able to report to troops outside Kandahar recently "that there were precisely 7,081 MRAPs in Afghanistan that day."

Later, in 2008, he would insist that the time it took to bring wounded troops to field hospitals in Afghanistan be cut. Since then it has gone from almost two hours to about 40 minutes.

Gates' tenure hasn't been criticism-free. Much of that concern is on the topic that consumes all of Washington these days: budgeting.

Though Gates himself has worked with President Obama on trimming more than $300 billion from the defense budget, he's attacked from the left for not doing enough. "Every year of his tenure, Gates asked Congress to increase the defense budget in real terms," Lawrence J. Korb of the Center for American Progress recently wrote for the National Interest. "When he took over at the Pentagon, the baseline budget was $450 billion. Four and half years later, it is over $550 billion."

Mackenzie Eaglen of the Heritage Foundation worries that the cuts have been too deep and reflect a "lack of long-term planning at the Defense Department."

The nation is still living off the military buildup of the Reagan era in many respects, she says, yet "we've abandoned virtually every modernization program."

Gates would seem to agree with Eaglen. He said recently at the American Enterprise Institute that while defense had to be part of getting the nation's fiscal house in order, modernization was still a priority. The country still has responsibilities to meet.

"Make no mistake," said the man whose long career has included senior posts serving two Democratic and three Republican presidents. "The ultimate guarantee against the success of aggressors, dictators, and terrorists in the 21st century, as in the 20th, is 'hard' power—the size, strength, and global reach of the United States military."

Ensuring that the country continues to meet those challenges falls on Gates' successor, Leon Panetta.

"While many people witness history, those who step forward to serve in a time of crisis have a place in history," Gates told the Naval Academy graduates. "As of today, you join the long line of patriots in a noble calling. By your service you will have a chance to leave your mark on history."

Just as Gates has done.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Summer of Recovery. Not!

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
*Special to the* Saipan Tribune

*Delrosario is a regular contributor to the* Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

When you hear a holiday tune at the start of summer you quiz if the Summer of Recovery is here at long last. It isn't, not even with a $800-plus billion stimulus package from the Obama administration. Joblessness rules the day in most small towns across the country. And the tsunami of joblessness is headed our way, too!

A sad experience having to discuss with family, relatives and friends plans to relocate to the U.S. mainland before year's end. Most have wrestled long and hard with the impending malaise of joblessness as revenue decreases by leaps and bounds. They know joblessness is coming and most don't want to be around to watch it engulf their livelihood right in their presence. I feel for these folks who yearn to be home in paradise they feel they rightly deserve. But most have found home their hellish hole.

These folks have taken a step further: figured out their retirement contribution in preparation to withdraw and pay Queen Mariana one last farewell. Deep down in their hearts they know that home is no longer the place to raise their children where opportunities for healthy growth have fizzled out almost completely. Need this be the case? Whatever happened to all the promises of brighter tomorrows? Where did leadership lose their sense of navigating the treacherous challenges of the times? Have they given up real leadership work? Their obvious disconnect with reality is definitely stunning!

With fuel at the pumps at $4-plus per gallon, spiraling utilities bill and the 15-plus percent increase in basic goods, families have to forcibly figure out how to navigate the setback forced by work hour cuts amidst devastating increases. Specifically, they look at their salaries, versus spiraling increases in family obligations. It's not that it is next to impossible. It's simply impossible! Has "better times" been muted permanently? Or do we "let it be" or "let it beg"?

■ ■ ■

### When consumer spending drops

When most consumers withhold spending, there are less goods and services for vendors to move or provide in hopes of making some profit. The domino effect of this phenomenon is endless. But it begins with fear on the part of consumers to overrunning their less than sturdy family budget. Thus, the decision to withhold until there's a little clearance of sort to venture spending. The net effect is far less revenue collection, therefore a plummet in total NMI resources. What does this mean for the near and long term?

Somewhere in government is a plan for a reduction-in-force at the start of the impending fiscal year. This is because of the contraction of resources projected to fall way below this fiscal year's. How many people would lose their jobs when this dire financial strait hits home? Obviously, these jobs are outside PSS, DPS and DPH. If the budget continues declining, then further reduction would have to come from the three essential departments too. But then the impending jobs famine presents real opportunities to make decisive and sensible cuts where it counts the most.

We can begin with the dismantling of the Legislature. Reduce it to a unicameral system with eight members, one each for Tinian and Rota, the rest from Saipan. This would force a highly competitive cream of the crop with real credentials over those who have chanced ruining the future of posterity with their shallow and tired refrain. It is for this reason that you have such shortsighted profoundly embarrassing policies like panties and bicycles.

Policymaking is a serious business! Unfortunately, most of these guys have no inkling of the serious nature of their fiduciary duties and responsibilities. Sad, huh? Let's not play into their hands. Let's steer clear of messing up our own future. Let's get folks with real credentials given the challenges ahead requiring the contribution of bright young scholars well versed in their specialty.

### Lucky we stay paradise

Buddy Magoo was at it with friends around the picnic table at Kilili Beach. They were planning the future of the NMI for the next 50 years over beer singing the Marianas anthem, you know, the German beer drinking tune. It was an interesting discussion so I tuned in to listen to fresh ideas.

"Nobody saw this coming except bureaucrats across the Pacific Divide and Capital Hill," said Magoo. "The combined local and federal negligence landed these islands in such dizzying economic mess it's even hard discerning that paradise is in a real bind."

"But things would ease when the Covenant Party joins their Republican counterpart so we begin preludes to working together with national Republicans who now control the U.S. House of Representatives," related my kanaka friend.

"Sure! It sounds cool in the newspapers, but when both parties have locked horns on cutting deficit spending, it really doesn't matter the realignment given that the national GOP has a stronger plan to pare down the national debt," said another.

"Obamanomics has failed what with high unemployment and a national debt that threatens the economic freedom of the country," said my kanaka friend. "We'd be joining the choir singing *Beyond the Reef* as Obama struggles to justify a second term."

"There's similarity in the experiences of both the federal and local governments—bankruptcy or insolvency—where banks will eventually refuse to cash government checks...remember when it used to be the strongest paper?"

Said Magoo, "Screw this discussion...even economics and financial experts have resigned their posts with the Obama administration and are headed back to Ivy League schools to preach 'how to fail the federal government.' Isn't this embarrassing?" Eh, lucky we stay paradise, yeah?

# Mao, Confucius and Louis Vuitton

**By DANIEL K. GARDNER**
*Los Angeles Times*

*Daniel K. Gardner is a professor of history and the director of the program in East Asian studies at Smith College. He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Mao Tse-tung, Confucius and Louis Vuitton have been mixing it up lately on China's most-renowned stage: Tiananmen Square.

For decades, Mao's portrait has hung over the Tiananmen Gate at the far north of the square, at the entrance to the Forbidden City, even as his embalmed body has lain in the mausoleum built immediately after his death in the center of the square. Chairman Mao, the Great Helmsman, founder of the People's Republic of China, looms mightily over the square, reminding the Chinese people of the Communist Party's achievement in raising the country out of its "feudal" and impoverished past and restoring it to prosperity and global influence.

On Jan. 13, Mao was joined in the square by a figure of at least equal repute in China: Confucius. Born in 551 BC, the sage, as he is known, left behind a set of teachings as influential as any the world has known. These teachings became the basis of state ideology by the 2nd century BC, and remained so, with some ups and downs, for more than two millenniums. But with the opening decades of the 20th century, prominent intellectuals and political figures took aim at Confucian teachings, arguing that they were in large part responsible for China's backwardness and weakness relative to the West.

Mao in particular disliked what he believed to be the enduring effects of Confucius' "feudal" practices on the people and, during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-1976, called on the Red Guards to destroy texts, temples, sites and statues throughout China associated with Confucius.

No small irony then that, suddenly, in early January, a 17-ton statue of the sage appeared in front of the north gate of the newly renovated National Museum of China—facing Mao's 15-by-20-foot visage hanging above the Tiananmen Gate.

Now, if Mao himself wasn't agitated, his loyal supporters apparently were. Confucius, after all, was an affront to all that Mao had stood—and fought—for. Consequently, Confucius, all 17 tons of him, disappeared on April 20, as suddenly and mysteriously as he had appeared three months earlier. No one has yet come forward with a formal explanation of the statue's comings and goings, but pundits assume, no doubt rightly, that Confucius' appearance and disappearance represent behind-the-scenes political jockeying between different camps within the leadership.

So, Confucius has exited the square. Enter Louis Vuitton. The French luxury goods company has taken up a perch almost exactly where the bronze Confucius had been set down. But rather than outside the north entrance of the National Museum, Louis Vuitton is inside the National Museum. Next to rare porcelain vases and bronze vessels, in a four-room exhibition, are LV luggage and handbags dating to the 1860s, reminding museum-goers of all the luxury the Chinese missed out on after the country's fall from power in the mid-19th century. Clever marketing, especially in a country where the world's high-end brands are all competing for visibility among a newly consumerist population.

The question that comes to mind is this: Confucius has been chased from Mao's square, but can Louis Vuitton, the representative of capitalist luxury and wasteful consumption, be any more palatable to the chairman? Is Louis' presence there preferable to the sage's?

Some Chinese, among them no doubt Mao's followers, have expressed displeasure with a Louis Vuitton show in a Chinese historical museum, of all places. Stores are one thing—there are now 27 Louis Vuitton shops in China—but a spot in the fabulously renovated National Museum in one of the world's most historically rich squares?

Don't assume, however, that Confucius has entirely left the stage. Having lost his much-coveted spot in Tiananmen Square, he's moved on to Shanghai. For reasons that are not at all clear, the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum decided that the sage, with his renewed popularity, deserved a show at the very same time the museum had planned to display "Albert Einstein (1879-1955)," an exhibition owned by the Historical Museum of Bern, Switzerland.

The Shanghai museum's motive here is unclear. Did it see a comparative-sage exhibition as a potential blockbuster? Or was it a nationalistic decision? That is, we have our Eastern sage too? Or maybe it was simply to fill gallery space. In any event, unhappy with the Shanghai's proposal to merge the Einstein exhibition with a Confucius exhibition, the Bern museum announced June 7 that it had dropped plans to bring its show to Shanghai.

Confucius thus seems to have fared better against Einstein in Shanghai than against Mao in Beijing. Whether Confucius will have a solo show in the Shanghai museum remains to be seen. And the meaning of the showdown between Confucius and Einstein is, if possible, less clear, at least at the moment, than that between Confucius and the chairman.

What is clear, though, is that Confucius, however aged, is getting around these days.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# A festering problem

To Mr. Keiper: It's probably pretty obvious to anyone who's been following our correspondence back and forth over the past month that you and I have gotten off to a bad start, and I do apologize for my part in allowing this situation to develop, but I think I've found some common ground we can start building a bridge on.

Our islands have been burdened with a "festering" immigration problem that's been going on for over a year now, and no one seems to have a clue as to how to remedy this. Before federalization came in and took over local immigration and labor, these two departments were a major source of revenue for our islands, and the programs and procedures in place were working to everyone's benefit. Now, one year later, there's thousands of out-of-work, displaced immigrants just hanging around our islands waiting for what?

In the same paper your letter to the editor came out in there was a cartoon by political satirist "Branch" portraying Sen. John Mc Cain blaming the immigrants for "taking jobs away from American arsonists." That was a pretty good cartoon, but I realize it's just a reflection of a far more serious immigration problem that's been in the news for the past year also.

It appears as if we have a similar situation where our local governments have a problem that's been taken out of our hands, and the people who are going to make the final decision on this may not have our best interests in mind. Am I correct on that?

Anyway, I think our readers will be as interested as I am in hearing about how your immigration problems are affecting the people of your state, and what the eventual outcome will be. I will certainly be looking forward to your response.

**Garry Evilsizer**
*Koblerville, Saipan*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲88° ▼77° | ▲84° ▼75° | ▲84° ▼75° | ▲83° ▼76° | ▲85° ▼77° |

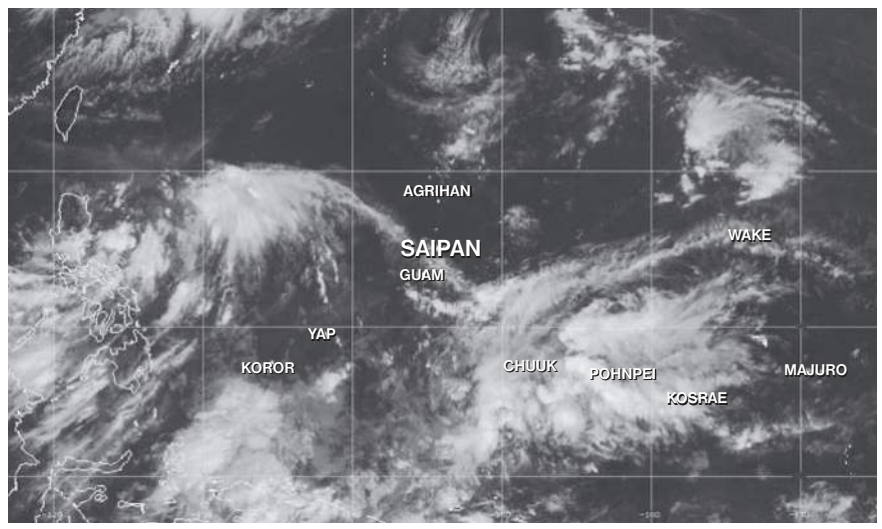
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | ▲82 | ▼76 |
| Palau | Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Rain | ▲83 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Cloudy | ▲82 | ▼75 |
| Pohnpei | Cloudy | ▲83 | ▼75 |
| Kosrae | Rain | ▲86 | ▼78 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲85 | ▼77 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Rain | ▲59 | ▼55 |
| Beijing | Partly Cloudy | ▲91 | ▼68 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲90 | ▼82 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼75 |
| London | Showers | ▲67 | ▼57 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲82 | ▼66 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲86 | ▼78 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲53 | ▼44 |
| Miami | Thundershowers | ▲87 | ▼71 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲88 | ▼69 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼74 |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | ▲73 | ▼56 |
| Pusan | Thundershowers | ▲78 | ▼70 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲85 | ▼67 |
| Salem | Sunny | ▲87 | ▼56 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲70 | ▼58 |
| Seoul | Mostly Cloudy | ▲82 | ▼68 |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼75 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲89 | ▼74 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2011**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends east-southeastward from 15N130E to 13N137E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found well northwest of Yap and Koror, west of a line from 20N138E to 16N136E to 10N130E. Convergent southwest winds south of Koror are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of a line from 7N130E to 7N133E to 4N137E. A surface trough extends east-southeastward from 8N143E to a weak circulation centered south of Chuuk near 5N151E then continues eastward to end south of Pohnpei near 6N158E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring between 3N and 11N from 147E to 164E, south of a line from 3N144E to 3N150E and within 70 miles of a line from 12N145E to 12N152E. This includes Chuuk and Pohnpei but is just west of Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers east of Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 4N175E to 7N180. Convergent trades and upper-level divergence are coupling to trigger isolated thunderstorms near Wake Island between 18N and 25N from 162E to 169E.

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12:25 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 6:35 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.9 Feet |
| 11:34 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.7 Feet |
| 6:21 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:52 AM | 6:52 PM |
| Thursday | 5:52 AM | 6:52 PM |
| Friday | 5:52 AM | 6:52 PM |
| Saturday | 5:53 AM | 6:52 PM |
| Sunday | 5:53 AM | 6:52 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wednesday | 10:13 AM | 10:37 PM |
| Thursday | 11:09 AM | 11:21 PM |
| Friday | 12:06 AM | - |
| Saturday | - | 12:06 AM |
| Sunday | 1:05 PM | - |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily |
| C09313 | 7:55am | 8:45am | 3, 6 |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09601 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09603 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| 5K382 | 6:00pm | 6:50pm | 2, 5, 7 |
| C09605 | 6:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL287 | 6:00am | 8:45am | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:20pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ606 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:30pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU590 | 4:30am | 7:20am | 2, 6 |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 4 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/701 | 2:20am | 11:25am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:50am | 11:25am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09317/891 | 4:25am | 9:45am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL287/173 | 6:00am | 10:15pm | Daily via NRT |
| C09313/933 | 7:55am | 8:40pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| C09603/933 | 3:05pm | 8:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM |
| C09603/893 | 3:05pm | 10:10pm | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau |
| OZ604/703 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN |
| OZ604/715 | 3:20pm | 11:30pm | 7 |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09603/909 | 3:05pm | 9:25pm | 1, 5 via GUM |
| 5K168 | 3:25pm | 6:35pm | 1, 4, 6 |
| OZ604/749 | 3:30pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09316 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| C09596 | 6:35am | 7:25am | 3, 6 |
| C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| 5K389 | 1:35pm | 2:25pm | 1, 4, 6 |
| C09602 | 1:40pm | 2:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09604 | 5:10pm | 6:00pm | Daily |
| C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL288 | 8:05pm | 12:35am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:20am+1 | 4, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ603 | 9:00am | 2:30pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ605 | 8:10pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU589 | 8:50pm | 3:30am+1 | 1, 5 |
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 4, 7 |

**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ704/603 | 12:10am | 2:30pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| DL172/288 | 7:45am | 12:35am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| C0890/9606 | 10:55am | 8:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| OZ702/605 | 12:45pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/605 | 12:45pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C0892/9596 | 9:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:25am+1 | 6 via GUM |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 10:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 4, 7 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 10:55pm | 7:25am+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

**HONG KONG-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ750/603 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| 5K169 | 9:55am | 5:00pm | 2, 5, 7 |
| OZ722/605 | 1:25pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:25pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C0910/9596 | 10:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily |
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | 10:20 | 10:45 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40 | 11:50 | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| **Tinian–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |

# Business

# Strauss-Kahn faces new sexual assault complaint

**PARIS** (AP)—Dominique Strauss-Kahn faced a potential new sexual assault investigation Monday after a young French writer said she would formally accuse him of trying to rape her during a 2002 book interview—a dizzying turn of events just as the former IMF chief's fortunes seemed to be growing brighter.

With France debating his possible return to presidential politics, Strauss-Kahn swiftly hit back at author Tristane Banon's plans to take him to court over the attempted rape accusations, labeling her account "imaginary" and countering with his own plans to file a criminal complaint of slander. The sordid exchange may have deep ramifications for the 2012 presidential race in France, where the surprise weakening of the sexual assault case against Strauss-Kahn in New York last week sparked a fierce debate about whether he should return to politics if the American case against him collapses completely.

AP

Doninique Strauss-Kahn, former head of the IMF returns to his house on Franklin St. in the Tribeca section of downtown Manhattan Saturday, July 2, 2011.

Before Banon's announcement, polls showed voters were evenly split about whether Strauss-Kahn, 62, should try to revive a career that until recently had him on track to take on conservative President Nicolas Sarkozy in the race to be France's next leader.

"DSK Back?" the left-leaning daily Liberation asked on its front page Monday.

Some politicians and pundits see Strauss-Kahn, who won plaudits for his stewardship of the International Monetary Fund, as a victim of overzealous American prosecutors and journalists who denied him the presumption of innocence when a maid accused him of forcing her to perform oral sex in his Manhattan hotel room.

"He was crushed, then, by that fraction of the American judicial apparatus that, by putting Dominique Strauss-Kahn in stocks, by humiliating him before the entire world, by ruthlessly pursuing him, has probably ruined his life," celebrity philosopher Bernard-Henri Levy wrote on The Daily Beast website.

Others have expressed disgust with allegations that the Socialist politician routinely subjected women to crude sexual advances, and lived a luxurious lifestyle out of touch with ordinary French people, even in the glare of press attention in New York.

"Between his luxury tastes and other subjects, Dominique Strauss-Kahn has not offered a very positive image recently," Sports Minister Chantal Jouanno, a Sarkozy ally, said on Europe-1 radio.

Strauss-Kahn has been living under house arrest in a $50,000 (euro34,500)-a-month town house in the trendy TriBeCa neighborhood. Once released, Strauss-Kahn had dinner at a pricey Manhattan restaurant.

"To see Strauss-Kahn freed then straight away eat in a luxury restaurant with friends, that makes me sick," Banon told the magazine L'Express in an account published Monday. "I only want one thing, that he comes back to France, with his presumption of innocence, so that we can go before a court."

Banon, 31, said on a 2007 television show that she had been attacked five years earlier by a politician she had interviewed for a book in his apartment. She later identified the man as Strauss-Kahn.

# Airlines positioned for big gains in efficiency

By SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP AIRLINES WRITER

Planes are being built out of the same lightweight materials used for Formula 1 race cars. Their engines are being redesigned to squeeze more thrust out of every gallon of fuel. And governments are developing air-traffic systems that will allow airlines to fly shorter routes.

Those and other advances have positioned airlines for the biggest gains in fuel efficiency since the dawn of the jet age in 1958. For airlines, more efficient jets will reduce their biggest expense. For passengers, it means fares won't jump around as much with the price of oil.

"We're seeing 25 years of improvements compressed into 10 years," says Hans Weber, president of TECOP International, an aviation consulting firm.

Airlines' urgency to reduce fuel use is being driven by two trends: soaring oil prices and tougher environmental regulations.

Pressured by airline executives for improvements, manufacturers have pushed the frontiers of technology by building lighter planes and borrowing essential engine-design advances from the auto industry, like automatic transmissions.

Airplane manufacturers have already reduced fuel consumption twice as much as car and train manufacturers have. In 1980, it took an average of 46 gallons of fuel to fly a passenger 1,000 miles. Today, it takes 22, according to an AP analysis of Department of Transportation data. Experts say the coming improvements could bring that number below 18 within a decade.

That can't come soon enough for airlines struggling with the rising price of oil.

U.S. airlines lost a combined $1 billion in the first three months of this year, in large part because of a 24 percent spike in fuel costs. A decade ago, fuel accounted for 15 percent of an airline's operating budget. Today, it's 35 percent.

U.S. carriers with European routes face hundreds of millions of dollars a year of additional costs pegged to their fuel consumption starting next year, when the European Union begins limiting how much carbon dioxide airlines are allowed to emit before paying a penalty. The restrictions are expected to cost airlines worldwide $3.3 billion a year. The U.S. airlines are fighting the law in European courts.

With billions of dollars of aircraft and engine orders at stake, manufacturers are turning designs that were dreams only a few years ago into reality.

# Crews mop up oil on Yellowstone River in Montana

**LAUREL, Mont.** (AP)—The scope of Exxon Mobil Corp.'s oil leak into the Yellowstone River could extend far beyond a 10-mile stretch of the famed waterway, the company acknowledged under political pressure Monday.

As the company intensified its cleanup of tens of thousands of gallons of spilled crude, Exxon Mobil Pipeline Co. President Gary Pruessing pledged to do "whatever is necessary" to find and mop up oil from the 12-inch pipeline that broke at the bottom of the river over the weekend.

The company earlier downplayed assertions from state and federal officials that damage from the spill was spread over dozens of miles. That drew sharp criticism from Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who planned to tour the damaged areas Tuesday.

Company officials said their statements were misconstrued, and Pruessing pledged that crews would begin walking the Yellowstone shoreline as soon as the flooding river recedes to look for pooled oil along the banks.

"We're not limiting the scope of our cleanup to the immediate site," Pruessing said at a news conference along the river near Laurel, as crews mopped up oil in the background. "We are not trying to suggest in any way that that's the limit of exposure."

Underscoring rising anger over the spill among some riverfront property owners, Pruessing was confronted after his news conference by a goat farmer and environmental activist who said his partner was sickened by oil fumes and had to be taken to the emergency room.

"I need to know what we've been exposed to. People are sick now," Mike Scott said. Scott's partner, Alexis Bonogofsky, was diagnosed Monday with acute hydrocarbon exposure after she experienced dizziness, nausea and trouble breathing, he said.

Pruessing said air and water monitoring had not revealed any health risks. But he told Scott the company would provide the public with more information.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Japan reconstruction minister resigns over remarks

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan's new disaster reconstruction minister submitted his resignation Tuesday after making remarks widely criticized as offensive during a visit to the earthquake-devasted northeast coast, where he refused to shake a governor's hand, scolded the official and threatened to withhold aid. In meetings with local governors over the weekend, Ryu Matsumoto appeared arrogant and uncaring, angering local residents and political opponents. He told the governor of Iwate, one of the hardest-hit prefectures, that the government would not help municipalities that did not have good ideas about rebuilding.

### Asian markets stall after Greece gets debt warning

**BANGKOK** (AP)—A credit agency warning that Greece could face default if it follows an international plan designed to help the country cope with its massive debts caused Asian markets to stall Tuesday. Oil prices hovered below $95 a barrel in Asia as traders mulled improving signs about the U.S. economy. The dollar rose against the yen and the euro. Japan's Nikkei 225 dropped 0.2 percent to 9,949.88, a small retreat from Monday's two-month high as investors sought to cash in profits a day after the index rose above the 10,000 mark for the first time since May 5.

### Oil rises above $95 after Greece gets loan

Oil edged above $95 a barrel Monday, bolstered by news that Greece was saved from near collapse after obtaining a vital loan installment. By early afternoon in Europe, benchmark crude for August delivery was up 12 cents to $95.06 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, with trading volumes low due to the Independence Day holiday in the U.S. The contract shed 48 cents to settle at $94.94 on Friday. Ministers from countries that use the euro common currency agreed over the weekend to pay Athens a euro12 billion ($17.39 billion) tranche of its existing euro110 billion rescue package by July 15, in time to meet several bond repayment deadlines this month and next. Europe and the International Monetary Fund will also continue to prop up Greece's struggling economy in coming years. ***(AP)***

## STOCK PORTFOLIO

### LEADING INDICATORS

| DOW | S&P | NASDAQ |
|---|---|---|
| 12,582.80 | 1,339.67 | 2,816.03 |
| 168.43 | 19.03 | 42.51 |
| 1.36% | 1.44% | 1.53% |

### EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australian Dollar | 0.9368 | Hong Kong Dollar | 7.7818 | Philippine Peso | 43.0750 |
| British Pound | 0.6235 | Indian Rupee | 44.5149 | Singapore Dollar | 1.2277 |
| Canadian Dollar | 0.9614 | Indonesian Rupiah | 8,537.50 | South Korean Won | 1,066.845 |
| Chinese Yuan | 6.4651 | Japanese Yen | 81.0650 | Swiss Franc | 0.8491 |
| Euro | 0.6909 | New Zealand Dollar | 1.2068 | Thailand Baht | 30.5375 |

# Nation

## Fireworks, parades, 62 hot dogs: US celebrates 4th

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The U.S. marked the 235th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with parades, fireworks, barbecues—plus presidential campaigning, a White House birthday and competitive eating.

Thousands were showing up near the Washington Monument to eagerly await the annual fireworks show on the National Mall, while others were throwing on Hawaiian shirts and shorts to ski the still-snowy slopes at resorts from California to Colorado.

In Boston, the annual Boston Pops concert was a must. In Akron, Ohio, the Rib, White & Blue Food Festival was enticing. And then, there were Nevada's casinos, which promised a pyrotechnics extravaganza that could be a gambler's best bet.

On New York's Coney Island, the annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth hot dog-eating contest brought out the biggest names in competitive eating for a clash that was short in timespan but high in calories.

Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, of San Jose, Calif., wolfed down 62 hot dogs and buns during the 10-minute contest, winning his fifth straight title. Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas chowed her way to victory in the first-ever women-only contest, eating 40 hot dogs, one shy of her 2009 total.

For 28-year-old New Yorker Matthew Penberg, the holiday is a day off from his job as a bus boy.

"I get to take a break and go to the beach," he said. "And today is the day people, Americans, demanded their rights. I don't think we're there yet. I think we should have a right to a job, but a lot of people have to look for it."

AP

Fireworks light up the night sky behind the Gateway Arch and the Old Courthouse Monday, July 4, 2011, in St. Louis.

At the mountaintop home to Thomas Jefferson in Charlottesville, Va., officials continued a nearly five-decade-old tradition of swearing in new U.S. citizens. Seventy-seven people took their oaths during a naturalization ceremony at Monticello.

The holiday is celebrated as the nation's birthday, but it also was Malia Obama's 13th birthday. The president's eldest daughter had to share her parents with hundreds of others as Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama invited troops and their families to attend a special barbecue and USO concert on the South Lawn.

Some of the Republicans hoping to replace Obama in the White House spent part of the day campaigning in states where presidential politics are as much a part of the holiday as fireworks and barbecues

U.S. Rep. Michelle Bachmann, of Minnesota, marched in a parade in Clear Lake, Iowa. In New Hampshire, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman both marched in the Amherst parade. Businessman and GOP hopeful Herman Cain skipped the parades but threw out the first pitch at a minor league baseball game in Manchester, N.H.

"Aside from the politicking and the handshaking and the enthusiasm that our campaign is determined to generate in this state, we're going to reflect on what it means to be an American," Huntsman told reporters. "To share inalienable rights, to share our Constitutional privileges."

In New York, where fireworks are banned on city streets, residents were waiting for a massive display over the Hudson River set to music.

Resident Karina Suriano, 23, wore patriotic colors and bright red feather earrings as she sold beach supplies in Brooklyn. For her, the holiday is a cash cow.

"It means money to me," she said with a grin.

She sold a water gun to the mother of 8-year-old Dejairah Mooreland. What does the holiday signify to her?

## New air traffic control system at crossroads

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Federal Aviation Administration is creating a new air traffic system that officials say will be as revolutionary for civil aviation as was the advent of radar six decades ago. But the program is at a crossroads.

It's getting harder to pry money out of Congress. The airline industry is hesitating over the cost of equipping its planes with new technology necessary to use the system. And some experts say the U.S. could lose its lead in the manufacture of high tech aviation equipment to European competitors because the FAA is moving too slowly.

Seventy-five years ago this week the federal government, spurred by the nascent airline industry, began tracking planes at the nation's first air traffic control centers in Newark, N.J., Chicago and Cleveland.

The original group of 15 controllers, relying on radioed position reports from pilots, plotted the progress of flights using blackboards, maps and boat-shaped weights. Air traffic control took a technological leap forward in the 1950s with the introduction of radar. That's still the basis of the technology used today by more than 15,000 controllers to guide 50,000 flights a day.

Under FAA's Next Generation Air Transportation System program, known as NextGen, ground radar stations will be replaced by satellite-based technology. Instead of flying indirect routes to stay within the range of ground stations, as planes do today, pilots will use GPS technology to fly directly to their destinations.

Planes will continually broadcast their exact positions, not only to air traffic controllers, but to other similarly equipped aircraft within hundreds of miles. For the first time, pilots will be able to see on cockpit displays where they are in relation to other planes and what the flight plans are for those other aircraft. That will enable planes to safely fly closer together.

When planes approach airports, precise GPS navigation will allow them to use more efficient landing and takeoff procedures. Instead of time-consuming, fuel-burning stair-step descents, planes will be able to glide in more steeply with their engines idling. Aircraft will be able to land and take off closer together and more frequently, even in poor weather, because pilots will know the precise location of other aircraft and obstacles on the ground. Fewer planes will be diverted.

## Jury ends 1st day without verdict on Casey Anthony

**ORLANDO, Fla.** (AP)—Jurors did not reach a verdict Monday in the Casey Anthony murder trial after deliberating for almost six hours on the prosecution's claim that the woman killed her 2-year-old daughter Caylee because the toddler interrupted her carefree partying and love life.

The jury began considering the case around noon after prosecutors gave a rebuttal closing argument and said the defense's assertion that Caylee's death was an accident made no sense.

Anthony is charged with first-degree murder and six other charges. If convicted of first-degree murder, she could be sentenced to death or life in prison.

The sequestered jury of seven women and five men was scheduled to resume deliberating Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. They were chosen from the Tampa Bay area because of exhaustive pretrial media coverage in the Orlando area and have been sequestered in an Orlando hotel. They have listened to 33 days of testimony and another two days of closing arguments.

AP

Casey Anthony with her attorney Dorothy Clay Sims on the last day of arguments in Anthony's murder trial at the Orange County Courthouse in Orlando, Fla. on Monday, July 4, 2011.

All the evidence has been sent back to the jury room, but jurors will be brought into open court if they want to watch any of the video evidence. Equipment for video viewing is not available in the deliberation room.

Anthony's attorneys say the girl drowned in the family's pool. They have said Anthony panicked and that her father, a former police officer, decided to make the death look like a homicide by placing duct tape over the child's mouth and dumping the body in some nearby woods. George Anthony has denied that.

Prosecutor Jeff Ashton told the jurors no one makes an innocent accident look like murder.

"That's absurd. Nothing has been presented to you to make that any less absurd," Ashton said. He also spent significant time reminding jurors about forensic evidence that he said links Anthony to her daughter's death, including the smell and chemical signature of decomposition in her car. Lead prosecutor Linda Drane Burdick followed Ashton, telling the jurors that prosecutors presented every piece of evidence they promised in May during opening statements. Without saying it, she was pointing out that defense attorneys never presented direct evidence backing up their contentions that the child drowned.

She then hammered on the lies Casey Anthony, then 22, told from June 16, 2008, when her daughter last seen, and a month later when sheriff's investigators were notified. Those include the single mother telling her parents that she couldn't produce Caylee because the girl was with a nanny named Zanny, a woman who doesn't exist; that she and her daughter were spending time in Jacksonville with a rich boyfriend who doesn't exist; and that Zanny had been hospitalized after an out-of-town traffic crash and that they were spending time with her.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Last 4 shuttle astronauts arrive for countdown

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.** (AP)—The four astronauts who will close out NASA's 30-year space shuttle program arrived Monday for their history-making launch week, saluting the nation's birthday and all those who contributed to Atlantis' final flight. The launch countdown begins Tuesday. Liftoff is set for Friday at 11:26 a.m. before an estimated crowd of up to 1 million people. Commander Christopher Ferguson and his crew received small American flags as launch director Mike Leinbach greeted them out on the runway. The four needed just two training jets for the flight from their training base in Houston.

### SF Bay Area transit officers kill man on platform

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—A man reportedly armed with a knife on a Bay Area Rapid Transit station platform was shot and killed by police, transit officials said Monday. Dispatchers received a call of a "wobbly drunk" with an open bottle of alcohol on the platform of the Civic Center/UN Plaza station in San Francisco around 9:30 p.m. Sunday, according to transit officials. Two transit officers arrived and then reported shooting a man in the torso. He died about an hour later at the hospital, officials said. Investigators said they found broken glass and knives at the scene.

### Teen accused of killing gay classmate faces trial

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Brandon McInerney was a scrawny 14-year-old from a broken home when he was accused of gunning down a gay classmate in front of stunned students at a Ventura County middle school. Three years later—and six months shy of legally becoming an adult—McInerney is going on trial on a charge of first-degree murder in the killing of 15-year-old Larry King. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison. Opening statements are slated for Tuesday at a courthouse in the San Fernando Valley after a judge changed the venue.

# Asia

## Warplane scares Filipino fishermen near Spratlys

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—An unidentified fighter plane flew within several feet (meters) above a boatload of Filipino fishermen in Philippine waters near the disputed Spratly Islands, scaring them into leaving the fishing area, the defense chief said Monday.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said the June 4 incident off western Palawan province is the latest foreign intrusion into Philippine territorial waters, where the military has previously accused Chinese military and civilians ships of illegal incursions.

The fishermen, shaken but unharmed, immediately left the area they locally call Dalagang Bukid Shoal, about 131 miles (210 kilometers) off Palawan Province's Balabac Island. The fishermen failed to identify the aircraft, which buzzed about 20 feet (six meters) over the tip of an antennae of their vessel, Gazmin said.

"It's the latest intrusion, the latest violation," Gazmin told The Associated Press.

Gazmin declined to speculate on the aircraft's identity but said most incursions into the Philippine waters in and near the Spratlys have been blamed on Chinese vessels.

The Spratlys, a chain of barren, largely uninhabited islands, reefs and banks in the South China Sea are claimed wholly by China, Taiwan and Vietnam and partly by the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei. The islands are believed to be rich oil and natural gas and straddle .

The Philippines has accused Chinese vessels of intruding at least nine times into Philippine waters in recent months, while Vietnam says Chinese vessels have hindered its oil exploration surveys in an area 200 nautical miles (370 kilometers) off its central coast that it claims as its economic exclusive zone.

China says it has sovereign rights over the South China Sea, but the reported Chinese operations in the area have set off protests.

About a dozen protesters burned two Chinese flags near the U.S. Embassy on Monday, urging Washington to back its ally Philippines amid its recent spats with China over the Spratlys.

On Sunday, dozens of Vietnamese held protests for a fifth straight week in Hanoi, waving Vietnamese flags and chanting anti-Chinese slogans and carrying signs that read: "China stop lying, stop violating, stop invading."

AP

Police officers watch in the background as protest leader Elly Pamatong burns a mock Chinese flag during a brief Fourth-of-July protest at the US Embassy on Monday July 4, 2011 to call for US support in the Philippines' claim of the disputed Spratly islands in the South China Sea.

## Petraeus: Fight in Afghanistan to turn eastward

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—The outgoing commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan said Monday that the focus of the war will shift in coming months from Taliban strongholds in the south to the eastern border with Pakistan where insurgents closest to al-Qaida and other militants hold sway.

On his last Fourth of July in uniform before becoming the new CIA director, Gen. David Petraeus said that come fall, more special forces, intelligence, surveillance, air power will be concentrated in areas along Afghanistan's rugged eastern border with Pakistan. There will be substantially more Afghan boots on the ground in the east and perhaps a small number of extra coalition forces too.

"There could be some small (coalition) forces that will move, but this is about shifting helicopters—lift and attack. It's about shifting close-air support. It's about shifting, above all, intelligence, surveillance and recognizance assets," he said in interviews with The Associated Press and three other news outlets. The U.S.-led coalition has concentrated most of its troops and attention in Helmand and Kandahar provinces in southern Afghanistan. That's where the majority of the more than 30,000 U.S. reinforcements were deployed last year. They have made gains in clearing the territory and now are trying to hold it as the Afghan authorities and international donors rush in with plans for development and better governance.

However, the civilian effort in the south has lagged behind the progress on the battlefield and the fight continues

According to an Associated Press tally, 26 of the 65 international troops, including Americans, who died in Afghanistan last month, were killed in Helmand where the coalition is now pushing north into other hotbeds of insurgents. Five others were killed in neighboring Kandahar, the birthplace of the Taliban insurgency. "The priority has been central Helmand province and Kandahar," Petraeus said. "We have made significant progress there. ... It remains a tough fight because the enemy wants to come back and try to regain the momentum the Taliban had until we took it away sometime last fall."

"We intend to hang on to those areas and solidify that progress and transition, increasingly, to a greater Afghan presence."

That, he said, will allow the coalition to shift focus to the east, which is home to the Afghan Taliban and other groups such as the al-Qaida affiliated Haqqani network and Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Petraeus spoke at the U.S.-led coalition headquarters where troops, carrying paper plates of hotdogs, steak and lobster were celebrating the Fourth of July.

## Lightly guarded Indian temple laden with treasures

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—Statues of gods and goddesses made of solid gold and studded with diamonds, rubies and emeralds. Crowns and necklaces. Gold and silver coins in such numbers, they were weighed by the sackful, rather than counted. And barely any security, save guards who controlled crowds at the 16th-century Hindu temple that had sealed away the treasures.

The vast treasure trove revealed in recent days instantly turned the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple into one of the wealthiest religious institutions in India. And its value was expected to grow.

The first four vaults inventoried at the temple in Trivandrum, the capital of the southern state of Kerala, held treasures that unofficial estimates peg at $22 billion. The last two secret vaults sealed for nearly 150 years were set for inspection after being opened Monday.

The temple, built by the maharajas who ruled the then-kingdom of Travancore, was controlled by the erstwhile royal family after India's independence in 1947.

The Supreme Court ordered the inspection of the vaults after a lawyer petitioned a local court asking the state government to take over the temple, citing inadequate security. The current Maharaja of Travancore opposed the petition.

The valuables were given to the temple by devotees, but the public did not know the quantum of the treasures stored there before the inventory started.

The government has increased security since then. The only visible security had been a few local security guards patrolling with batons, mainly for crowd control.

Kerala's police chief, Jacob Punnoose, said he sent extra police officers to guard the temple and is planning a high-tech security system to protect the treasure.

"We plan to enhance security in a manner which will not interfere with the activities of the temple or devotees," Punnoose said.

Manoj Abraham, city police commissioner, said two battalions of special armed police would provide security outside the temple complex.

"Later, we will discuss with temple authorities and members of the former royal family what kind of permanent security system should be put in place," Abraham said.

Devout Hindus donate cash, gold and silver to temples around India. Some are so wealthy, they have formed trusts to run schools, colleges and hospitals that offer free treatment to the poor.

AP

An Indian police officer stands guard outside the the 16th-century Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Trivandrum, the capital of the southern state of Kerala, India, Monday, July 4, 2011.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Suu Kyi travels into Myanmar's countryside

**BAGAN, Myanmar** (AP)—Myanmar democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi visited an ancient city of temples and met with her youngest son during her first trip into the countryside since her release from house arrest in Yangon in November. The 66-year-old Nobel Peace Prize laureate planned to spend four days on a private trip to Bagan—also known as Pagan—where her son Kim Aris also was visiting from Britain. She last went there in 1989 for a political appearance that drew thousands of residents. Suu Kyi plans further trips to meet supporters outside Yangon, the country's largest city, although the state-controlled media warned her last week against political trips, saying they could cause chaos and riots.

### Philippine landslide kills at least 3; 20 missing

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Officials say at least three people are dead and about 20 are missing in a landslide along a southern Philippine highway. Provincial disaster officer Nick Alagenio says days of heavy rains have triggered several landslides that have covered portions of a mountainside highway in southern Bukidnon province, clogging the road and forcing motorists to walk. Most of the victims were walking or were on motorcycles along the muddy highway near Valencia city when another landslide struck Monday morning, burying them. Jun Torayno, head of the provincial rescue team, says three bodies have been retrieved, one injured victim has been brought to hospital and rescuers are searching for an estimated 20 missing people.

### NKorea holds massive rally condemning SKorea govt

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—North Koreans gathered Monday at a massive rally in Pyongyang to denounce the conservative government of South Korean President Lee Myung-bak as a "group of unparalleled traitors." More than 100,000 citizens, soldiers and senior government and army officials flocked to Kim Il Sung Square, according to footage from Associated Press Television News in Pyongyang. Signs carried slogans praising North Korean founder Kim Il Sung and the country's "military first" ideology.

# World

# Libya sees some progress in talks with rebels

**TRIPOLI, Libya** (AP)—A senior Libyan official said Monday that progress has been made in talks with rebels on ending more than four months of fighting, but a top rebel leader denied that any negotiations are taking place.

The rebel leader, Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, also distanced himself from earlier comments attributed to him that Libya's opposition might consider allowing Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi to stay in the country as part of a transition deal, provided he resigns and orders a cease-fire.

"The Libyans do not want Gadhafi to stay even if he's dead ... after what he's done while in power and during the revolt against him," Abdul-Jalil said Monday.

In the Gadhafi-controlled capital of Tripoli, Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Kaim told reporters that talks with various rebel officials have been going on for two months.

He said the negotiations have included some members of a transitional council based in the eastern rebel stronghold of Benghazi, though he acknowledged that "of course there are elements within the rebellion who are not in favor in talks."

The aim of the discussions, taking place outside Libya and over the phone, is to halt hostilities and set a framework for further dialogue, he said.

AP

Libyans pray during the evening prayers on the main square in the rebel-held Benghazi, Libya, Monday, July 4, 2011.

Asked if progress has been made, he said: "In some areas, yes, of course."

Kaim alleged that some members of the NATO-led coalition conducting daily airstrikes in Libya have complicated efforts because they don't support negotiations. Talks are also being hindered because the rebels do not speak with one voice, he said.

Two weeks ago, Gadhafi's prime minister, al-Baghdadi al-Mahmoudi, said the Libyan government had held a number of "preliminary meetings" with officials based in Benghazi. He said at the time that talks are taking place abroad, including in Egypt, Tunisia and Norway, but did not provide specifics.

However, Abdul-Jalil said that "there are no talks underway with Gadhafi's loyalists, direct or indirect."

An anti-government uprising erupted in Libya in mid-February and quickly turned into an armed conflict. The rebels are in control of the country's eastern third, while Gadhafi clings to the rest. His forces have been unable to retake several rebel-controlled pockets there, including the port city of Misrata.

NATO has been carrying out airstrikes against Gadhafi-linked military targets since March. It is joined by a number of Arab allies, including the wealthy Gulf states of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Several bomb blasts shook the capital Monday afternoon as coalition warplanes roared overhead.

In an interview, a Libyan army captain said NATO's airstrikes are preventing Gadhafi's forces from operating "in a normal coordinated way," forcing them to keep missions secret and work like the rebels in small groups using pickup trucks to avoid detection by NATO planes.

The officer, who is originally from Mali and now holds Libyan nationality, said many suspected rebels have been arrested in Tripoli. Gadhafi still retains significant support, including among several Libyan tribes, said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution.

Also on Monday, Libyan officials said that shortly before dawn they intercepted two boats loaded with weapons from Qatar that were intended for the rebels. Government spokesman Moussa Ibrahim said 11 rebels were captured in the boats close to shore near the town of Janzour, just west of Tripoli.

Foreign reporters were later taken to Tripoli's port where they were shown a cache of rifles and ammunition displayed in a tent, but not the captured boats. The weapons included about 100 Belgian-made FN assault rifles, as well as thousands of rounds of ammunition of the same caliber used in the guns.

Several of the ammunition boxes were marked in English as coming from the armed forces of Qatar.

# Chavez's future uncertain after cancer surgery

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—Hugo Chavez's surprise return from Cuba after cancer treatment was a classic maneuver for a president who excels at showmanship. It's also likely to give him a political boost as supporters rally around their ailing leader.

The 56-year-old president projected a strong, vibrant image as he stepped off a plane early Monday. Smiling, he hugged his vice president, broke into song and later raised a fist in triumph.

"It's the beginning of my return!" he declared.

That afternoon, he rallied thousands of supporters from a balcony of the presidential palace, telling them: "We will also win this battle for life."

Wearing fatigues and the red beret of his army days, Chavez revealed that he had been in intensive care in Cuba and held up a crucifix. "Christ is with us," he said.

Chavez

The crowd chanted: "Oh, no! Chavez won't go!"

Despite the confident image, doubts about his future reemerged as he suggested later in the day that he still isn't ready for a full comeback.

He told state television by telephone that he doesn't expect to attend celebrations Tuesday marking the 200th anniversary of Venezuela's independence from Spain. Normally, Chavez would be front and center at the patriotic event.

Still, for a president who knows how to command attention, his surprise return was signature Chavez and sent a powerful message that he remains in control. During nearly a month in Cuba, uncertainty has swirled in Venezuela, both about how sick he is and what would happen if cancer were to force him from power.

The long-term political impacts of fighting cancer for a leader who thrives on the spotlight remain unclear. But Chavez will likely play up his plight to rally his movement as he looks ahead to 2012 elections, in which his allies say they are convinced he will still be their candidate.

Unanswered questions about Chavez's health abound. He has said he underwent surgery to remove a cancerous tumor, and his foreign minister said it was extracted from the same part of the "pelvic region" where Chavez had an abscess removed in Cuba on June 11. Chavez hasn't said what type of cancer is involved nor whether he is receiving chemotherapy, radiation or another treatment.

Based on Chavez's account, medical experts said it's most likely he has colorectal cancer, but Chavez has not confirmed that.

# Riots erupt in Egypt after court releases police

**CAIRO** (AP)—Hundreds of Egyptians attacked a courtroom in Cairo on Monday, scuffled with security guards, and blocked a major highway for hours after the court ordered the release of 10 policemen charged with killing protesters during the country's uprising.

The unrest added to tensions already running high in Egypt over the ruling military council's failure to hold accountable security forces involved in killing protesters during the uprising that toppled former President Hosni Mubarak. Nearly five months later, only one policeman has been convicted in the deaths of more than 846 people killed in a government crackdown on protesters. He was tried in absentia.

In Monday's court proceedings, guards had to separate between the relatives of the victims and the families of the defendants even before the decision was read. In his initial statement, the judge seemed to suggest he would impose harsh sentences, saying that "the blood of those killed will not be spilled in vain," according to the Egyptian news agency MENA.

However, he then ordered the release of the defendants, setting off a riot. The victims' families scuffled with the guards and tried to rush toward the defendants who were whisked out of the courtroom. A number of famiy members of the slain protesters tried to storm the judge's office in the courthouse, but were blocked by soldiers guarding the building.

After the riots broke out, Egypt's Prosecutor-General Mahmoud Abdel-Meguid ordered the court's decision overturned in a clear attempt to defuse anger. However, a lawyer for the victims' families said that such a decision is "illegal" because the prosecutor general has no authority over the court.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Mexico may call off rescue of 7 in boat capsizing

**TIJUANA, Mexico** (AP)—American tourists on an annual July 4 fishing trip were plunged into the Gulf of California in the middle of the night after a flash storm upended their boat, killing at least one U.S. man and leaving seven others missing. Mexican officials on Monday were considering calling off the search for survivors and turning their efforts to recovering bodies after rescuing 19 tourists and all 16 crew members, who clung to coolers, rescue rings and life vests for hours before some were discovered by other fishing boats as they tried to swim to shore. Mexican navy Capt. Benjamin Pineda Gomez said he had no name or details about the man who died.

### Lawyer: UK paper hacked into abducted girl's phone

**LONDON** (AP)—A lawyer for the family of a murdered British girl has claimed that The News of The World tabloid hacked into her cell phone after she went missing. Mark Lewis said Monday that the parents of 13-year-old Milly Dowler, who was abducted and slain in 2002, are pursuing a claim for damages from the Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid. Lewis says the hacking occurred when Dowler was first reported missing and could have jeopardized the police investigation.

### Mladic disrupts war crimes court, gets ejected

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands** (AP)—He put on a cap, defying the rules of the courtroom. He gestured to the packed public gallery despite a judge ordering him not to. He threatened a boycott because his chosen lawyers weren't there. A belligerent Ratko Mladic repeatedly disobeyed and shouted at judges Monday during an arraignment at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal. Finally, the former Serb general was thrown out of the hearing and the court entered not guilty pleas on his behalf to 11 charges of masterminding the worst atrocities of the Bosnian war. The 69-year-old's courtroom theatrics came at the start of a solemn week for survivors of the massacre he is accused of orchestrating—the killing of 8,000 Muslim men and boys in 1995 in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica.

# Focus

TIM JOHNSON/MCT

Isidro Velasquez, one of only two known speakers of the dying Ayapanec language, says in jest that he speaks it only with two turkeys he keeps in his back patio.

TIM JOHNSON/MCT

When 76-year-old Manuel Segovia dies, the Ayapanec language he speaks will most certainly go to the grave as well. Segovia is seen in his Ayapan, Mexico, home, May 19, 2011.

# Silenced voices

## Languages dying off around the globe

By TIM JOHNSON
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

**AYAPAN, Mexico**—Only two people on Earth are known to speak the Ayapanec language, Manuel Segovia and Isidro Velasquez, old men of few words who are somewhat indifferent to each other's company.

When Segovia and Velasquez pass away, their language also will go to the grave. It will mark the demise of a unique way of describing the lush landscape of southern Mexico, and thinking about the world.

Ayapanec isn't alone in its vulnerability. Some linguists say that languages are disappearing at the rate of two a month. Half of the world's remaining 7,000 or so languages may be gone by the end of this century, pushed into disuse by English, Spanish and other dominating languages.

The die-off has parallels to the extinction of animals. The death of a language, linguists say, robs humanity of ideas, belief systems and knowledge of the natural world. Languages are repositories of human experience that have evolved over centuries, even millennia.

"Languages are definitely more endangered than species, and are going extinct at a faster rate," said K. David Harrison, a linguist at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania and the author of the book *When Languages Die*. "There are many hundreds of languages that have fewer than 50 speakers."

Hot spots for endangered languages may not be where you think. They include places such as Oklahoma, which holds the highest density of indigenous languages in the United States, partly because faraway tribes were forcibly relocated there in the 1800s; northern Australia, home to many small and scattered Aboriginal groups, and Central Siberia, which has 25 Turkic, Mongolic and other languages that face extinction.

In Mexico's Tabasco state, which faces the Gulf of Mexico, several languages and their dialects are in agony. Less than two miles northwest of the town of Ayapan is Cupilco, home to a handful of elderly residents who still speak a dialect of Nahuatl, the language of the ancient Aztecs. Linguists call the dialect "moribund" because no children speak it.

When Ayapanec and Nahuatl Cupilco die, bridges will not fall down. Ecosystems will not be disrupted. Few may notice. Language is an invisible triumph of humanity, and its disappearance brings only silence.

"It's not as flashy as a pyramid, but it represents enormous human achievement in terms of the thought and effort that went into it," said Daniel Suslak, a linguistic anthropologist at Indiana University who's about to publish a dictionary and grammar of Ayapanec.

Mexico, one of the world's most linguistically diverse nations, prides itself on its indigenous population, from the white-robed Lacandons in the southern jungles to the Tarahumaras, famed for their long-distance running through canyons in Chihuahua.

More than 9.8 million Mexicans speak any of some 68 distinct indigenous languages, with 364 dialects or variants. But the number is dropping.

"Many of these languages are spoken only by people 50 years old or older, and so no matter how much we wish it weren't so, they will disappear," said Arnulfo Embriz, the director of linguistic policy at the National Institute for Indigenous Languages.

That is the likely fate of Ayapanec, which is thought to have descended from a language spoken by the Olmecs, a pre-Columbian civilization that lived in the tropical lowlands near the Gulf of Mexico. Its speakers call the language "Nuumte Oote," or "the real voice."

Manuel Segovia was bathing when a visitor arrived at his one-story home in this hot flatlands town in the cacao-growing region of Tabasco. His 27-year-old son, Jose Manuel, said his father had taught him a little Ayapanec.

"I can speak some words, not 100 percent, maybe 25 percent," he said. "When you are grown like I am, you have other activities that take your time."

While foreign linguists now come to study Ayapanec, he said, chances are slim that its demise can be averted.

"It will be forgotten. Who will worry about reviving something that no one cared about when it was still alive?" he asked.

Segovia, 76, shuffled into the room and sat in a hammock. After a little prodding, he described how, when he was a boy, everyone in town "could speak the words." Then around 1940, an edict came from the capital.

"By order of the government, teachers would no longer teach the language or allow us to study it. ... They didn't want to hear it anymore," Segovia said.

The national oil industry boomed nearby, a road pierced the region and migrants speaking other indigenous languages, such as Chontal, as well as the dominant Spanish, moved to the village. Ayapanec-speaking residents became a minority. Some scattered.

For decades, Segovia lived with his elder brother, Esteban.

"Manuel and Esteban were so close to each other and lived with each other and spoke to each other every day, all day, in nothing but Ayapanec," said James A. Fox, a linguist at Stanford University who's worked to document and preserve the language on tape.

When Esteban died more than a decade ago, Manuel Segovia had hardly anyone left to speak to. A younger man he occasionally hired to tend to his cacao crops, Isidro Velasquez, could speak Ayapanec. But the two men aren't close. Mexican news reports suggested a feud.

Segovia, now dressed in the white shirt and red kerchief that's the traditional costume of the Ayapanec community, bristled at that. "Who told you that?" he blurted out. After it was explained that the matter had been aired in the Mexican media, Segovia volunteered to escort a visitor to Velasquez's home to prove that no rift existed.

Once there, the 68-year-old Velasquez greeted visitors without a shirt, displaying a tanned frame made sinewy by a lifetime of labor.

"I'm not very handsome for you to be taking photos of me," he said, a smile creasing his face. Several of his six children and multiple grandchildren passed through the room. None could speak Ayapanec, and Velasquez acknowledged that he hardly used the language anymore.

"I have two turkeys," Velasquez said, pointing to a back patio. "Sometimes I grab them and speak to them (in Ayapanec). They understand me."

His loud cackle needed no linguistic interpretation.

As Segovia noted, Ayapanec isn't fading away of its own volition. It's been pushed toward extinction through a combination of government policies and the overwhelming presence of Spanish, the national language.

Even as Mexico boasts of its indigenous heritage, with an eye on promoting tourism, it's done poorly in bilingual education, posting qualified teachers to areas where their language isn't spoken.

"Education is basically in Spanish," said Cristina Buenrostro, a linguist at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. "Those who speak an indigenous language begin to lose it on entering school."

Languages can die of neglect when their speakers find that a new language coming into an area is more important or useful, but coercion is more common. In the 19th century, the U.S. government established federal boarding schools for Indian youth, requiring them to speak English and punishing them if they spoke their native tongues. Australia also forced English on its Aboriginal population.

"It happened in Spain under (Gen. Francisco) Franco. He discouraged the use of Basque in the same way by preventing its use in schools," Fox said, adding that such policies can backfire. Basque speakers took the pressure as reason to embrace the language.

But when native speakers have offspring who don't see the utility of their parents' tongue, the language also is doomed, experts say.

"I see this process as not benign," said Harrison, the Swarthmore expert and a strong advocate of language diversity. "It's not a rational thing where people see Spanish as better. They receive the message through mass media, through educational institutions and through society at large.

"If people weren't coerced into giving up their languages, they would keep them."

Harrison said no language had a monopoly on genius. Moreover, many dying languages contain valuable knowledge of the plants and animals in the environments in which they're spoken. Biologists even have determined that animals they'd thought of as a single species were in fact two, based on their descriptions in a minor language.

Ayapanec has a complex vocabulary for the creatures of the Gulf, recognizing six varieties of turtles and all manner of fish.

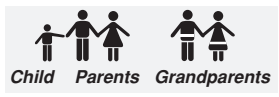
If more linguists aren't put to the task of analyzing and documenting endangered languages, some certainly will fade into oblivion. Experts need years to create grammar books, dictionaries, and audio and video recordings of personal histories.

By Harrison's reckoning, 85 percent of the world's languages have no proper documentation. As those languages fall silent, there may be no trace of what was lost.

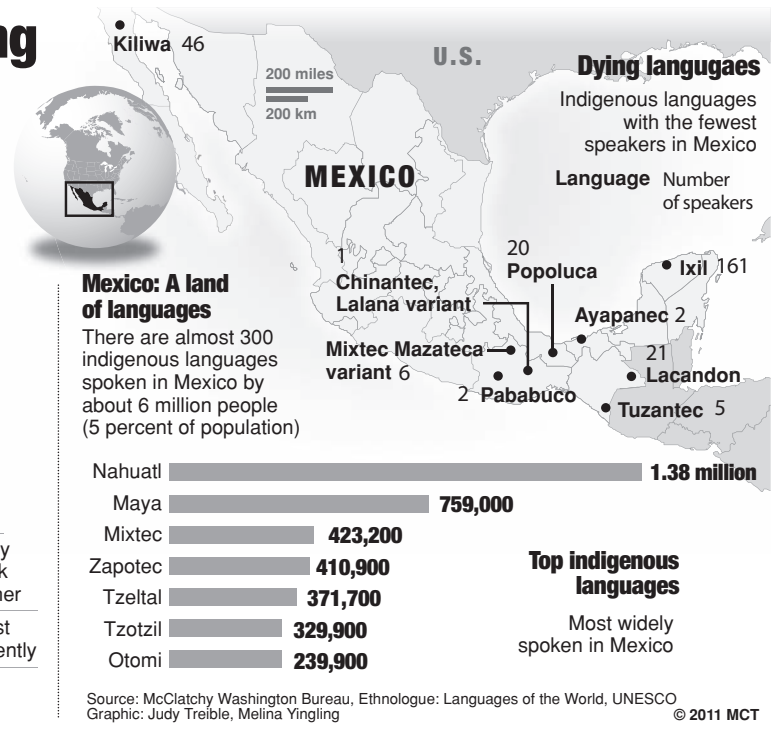
## World's languages are dying

*Experts say half of the world's 7,000 languages may be extinct by the end of this century. People lose the ability to speak their local language, as well as the cultural knowledge these languages hold, when they switch to global languages, such as English.*

**How languages disappear**
Current status of world's languages and the path to extinction




| Percent of languages | | Who speaks the language |
|---|---|---|
| 57% | Safe | Spoken by all generations |
| 10 | Vulnerable | Most children, but only at home |
| 11 | Definitely endangered | Children no longer learn the language at home |
| 9 | Severely endangered | Grandparents; parents may understand but don't speak it to children, with each other |
| 10 | Critically endangered | Grandparents are youngest speakers; speak it infrequently |
| 4 | Extinct | Since 1950, no speakers left |




Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, Ethnologue: Languages of the World, UNESCO
Graphic: Judy Treible, Melina Yingling

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# Campus Life

# US colleges push efforts to draw foreign students

## » As more countries seek to cash in on the growing market for international students, the USA is losing ground

MCT

Minao Wang, left, with Kang Ming Si, attend their business ethics class at Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, California, December 2, 2010.

By MARY BETH MARKLEIN
USA TODAY

**JAKARTA, Indonesia**—The bang of a ceremonial gong opens festivities in a cavernous downtown office building here, where representatives from 56 U.S. colleges stand ready to peddle their wares.

The University of Cincinnati passes out pennants. At a booth for Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, three young Indonesians talk up their alma mater. And U.S. Embassy officials tout the 95 percent approval rate in Indonesia for student visas.

"I'm literally almost out on the streets, grabbing people as they walk by, saying, 'Hey, we'll give you a visa if you go study in America,'" Scot Marciel, the U.S. ambassador to Indonesia, says at a news conference promoting this college fair. The event is the first major effort by the government toward achieving a goal set last year by President Obama and Indonesian officials to double the number of Indonesians studying at U.S. colleges.

The United States used to be the destination of choice for young Indonesians and other foreign students seeking a college degree outside their home country.

During the past decade, however, the U.S. has become a harder sell.

Cost, distance and lingering fears about visa denials in the post-9/11 era have helped make the U.S. less attractive to foreign students, threatening a lucrative market that is a source of brain power and diversity for U.S. colleges.

The number of Indonesian students enrolled in a U.S. college for at least a year has dropped from a high of 13,282 in 1997-98 to 6,943 in 2009-10, local organizers say, citing data from the New York-based Institute of International Education.

U.S. colleges are facing increasing competition from other countries—among them, Australia, which attracted more than 10,000 full-time Indonesian students studying abroad in 2008, about one-third of the total.

Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous country and third-largest democracy, is an extreme case.

U.S. higher education has climbed out of its post-9/11 international enrollment dip and attracts more foreign students than any other country—a record 691,000 in 2010, up from 475,000 in 2000, with the increase driven by an upsurge in Chinese undergraduates.

But as more countries seek to cash in on the growing market for international students, the USA is losing ground. From 2000 to 2008, the number of students enrolled in a college outside their home country soared 85 percent to 3.3 million. During that time the U.S. share shrank, from 24 percent to 19 percent, according to the Organization for Economic Co-operative Development.

"We have a great product. Our offering is still the best in the world. But we don't want to rest on our laurels," says U.S. Commerce Undersecretary Francisco Sanchez, who hosted the Jakarta event, the agency's largest-ever higher education trade mission overseas.

The State Department has primary responsibility for promoting U.S. higher education abroad as part of its mission to strengthen international ties and mutual understanding. While highly selective U.S. colleges vie with top colleges in other countries for the best and brightest students, many less selective colleges are trying to build an international reputation as a way to increase diversity on their campuses—and boost revenue. Foreign students typically pay a higher non-resident tuition at public universities.

The Commerce Department's embrace is a reminder that foreign students bring more than talent and diverse perspectives to U.S. campuses.

Between tuition and living expenses, they contributed $20 billion to the U.S. economy last year, making higher education among the nation's top service exports. Those who return home after graduating help build a better business environment for U.S. companies, says Sanchez, whose office also has organized recent international missions for the aerospace, water technology and beauty and cosmetics industries.

By day's end, more than 6,000 students, many with parents in tow, have braved Jakarta's urban traffic to get to the downtown exhibition hall, which has taken on a carnival-like air.

The event, co-hosted by a Jakarta-based non-profit Access Education Beyond, looks like most college fairs. There's an essay-writing workshop for students, tours to local high schools for U.S. colleges and opportunities for networking.

But the Commerce Department's presence signals a distinction—barely perceptible—that underscores a philosophical divide about how U.S. colleges should go about recruiting foreign students in an increasingly competitive environment.

At issue is a controversial but growing practice overseas in which U.S. colleges pay local recruiters based on how many students they bring to a campus. Typically, the recruiters, often called commercial agents, are paid a commission or bonus and offer the service free to students and families.

The practice is common in Asian countries, along with the United Kingdom and Canada. One survey by an association of Indonesian agents estimates that 55 percent of Indonesians who study overseas use agents, who can help families navigate the sometimes complicated process of applying for visas and managing unfamiliar application procedures.

"It's really confusing," says Lina Sarmili of Jakarta, who is working with an agent for her son, Jonathan Wiliputra, who translates her remarks into English. "You have to do things step by step. They guide us."

For the Commerce Department, the concept makes sense. "When we're promoting a product, generally we match up a business with a potential buyer or a distributor—someone to represent them (the U.S. product) in a particular market," Sanchez says.

One session here is set up to help U.S. colleges meet such agents. Because the profession is largely unregulated, organizers here urge colleges to vet them carefully.

Other U.S. agencies involved in recruiting foreign students aren't as sold on the agent system, a reflection of various complaints here about unscrupulous agents who steer students to certain schools or who "double-dip"—charging families for their services while also being paid by a college.

The State Department won't allow agents at its functions, which include 400 international college advising centers scattered across 170 countries. Domestically, the Education Department bars colleges that accept federal assistance such as Pell grants and federal student loans, from paying commissions to recruiters.

Education officials recently closed a loophole that enabled for-profit colleges to do so. And the National Association for College Admission Counseling, whose members include 1,400 colleges, says it plans to more aggressively enforce its ban on the practice as overseas recruitment becomes more common.

In Indonesia, a big concern among students considering foreign colleges is the potential for fraud and deceit among agents.

"Some agents are biased, probably because of the commission they get from the universities," says Davin William Marta, 17, who is here with his mom, Cherry Frederica Lioe. "They really push us to go to that school."

Marta, who has visited booths of eight schools this afternoon, says he prefers the fair because "I can contact the school directly" and "get a lot of choices."

Even so, agents have been embraced by more than 125 U.S. institutions, who have joined an association founded in 2008 that aims to discourage flim-flammers by setting standards for agents' conduct. Several of those colleges are at this fair.

Frank Merendino, senior admissions officer for the University of Cincinnati, says the market will take care of itself because colleges will stop using agents whose students ultimately aren't happy and drop out. "It's in their best interest to send students who make a good fit," he says.

Gregory Barattini of Foothill-De Anza Colleges in California, says that compared with international students who discover his institutions on their own, students who are referred by reputable agents "know far better what to expect, have a much greater support system in place, and altogether are better prepared to succeed. Period."

Not all schools here buy that concept. The State University of New York-Buffalo prefers to deal with students directly, associate vice president Joseph Hindrawan says.

Indiana University-Purdue-University-Indianapolis won't pay agents but will enroll qualified students who work with agents. "I do recognize that it is very helpful to parents to have a person locally that they can turn to for information," says Patricia Biddinger, director of international recruitment.

And information may be what foreign students seek most about U.S. higher education. Indonesia native Ade Hastuti, an alum of the Indiana campus who greeted families on behalf of her alma mater, says tuition fees and living costs "are seen to be the biggest challenge," she says. That, along with "the long distance" and "the difficulty getting a visa."

During the news conference, a reporter asks whether Muslims, who make up the majority religion in Indonesia, face special restrictions. "The U.S. government welcomes all students," says Marciel, the ambassador.

A 2009 Commerce Department report notes that rising tuition costs "may harm U.S. competitiveness in the long run," which is one reason organizers here are looking for ways to make U.S. education more affordable, through local scholarships or partnerships with U.S. universities.

The U.S. Embassy says visa processing has become more efficient since 9/11 and that lingering concerns about visa problems are outdated. The average approval rate for all visas is nearing 90 percent.

Marciel, who says delivering Indonesian students to U.S. colleges is his top priority, acknowledges the dueling philosophies within the U.S. government about overseas recruiting.

The State Department is stepping up recruitment efforts; its newest advising center is located in the Embassy's innovative new high-tech cultural center, which opened in a downtown shopping mall.

The center, which offers free advising that emphasizes the diversity of U.S. higher education, is "a great way around" concerns about unscrupulous recruiters, Marciel says.

But, he adds, "We're not out telling people don't use agents. We need to get back in the game in a big way, aggressively marketing the quality of U.S. education."

# Life & Style

# Joey Chestnut chows down 5th hot dog contest win

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Joey Chestnut scarfed down 62 hot dogs to win his fifth consecutive Fourth of July hot dog eating contest at Coney Island—the equivalent of about 20,000 calories in 10 minutes.

It wasn't a personal best for the 27-year-old nicknamed Jaws, but it was enough to out-eat second-place finisher Patrick Bertoletti by nine wieners. Chestnut, of San Jose, Calif., won $10,000 and the coveted mustard-yellow belt.

"I feel great!" he said after the contest, adding that he was going to drink a lot of water and avoid hot dogs for a few days.

Chestnut started at a blistering pace but couldn't beat his own record of 68 "because I kept messing up," he said, pausing for a burp. "Excuse me," he told reporters squeezed around him.

Bertoletti, of Chicago, won $5,000, and third-place contestant Tim Janus, of New York, won $2,500.

This year, for the first time, the annual contest in front of Nathan's Famous fast-food stand was broken into two divisions, one for men and one for women.

Sonya Thomas, known as the "Black Widow" of competitive eating, won with 40 downed dogs, earning her $10,000 and her own pink champion's belt.

"I'm so happy!" said Thomas, of Alexandria, Va.

She started out neck-and-neck with second-place finisher Juliet Lee but later pulled ahead.

"I looked over, and I said, `No way!' But I have to focus myself, because I cannot keep up with her now," Thomas said. Instead, she preserved her biggest jolt of energy for the winning end.

Lee, of Germantown, Md., ate 29 1/2 wieners, and Stephanie Torres, of Las Cruces, N.M., downed 28 1/2.

Both Thomas and Chestnut broke world records in 2009, he with 68 and she with 41.

AP

Four-time reigning champion Joey Chestnut, center, raises his arm in victory as he wins his fifth Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating World Championship with a total of 62 hot dogs and buns, Monday, July 4, 2011, at Coney Island, in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Chestnut's chief rival, Takeru Kobayashi, stayed away from the contest this year, staging a separate competition where he ate 69 dogs in 10 minutes—which would have been a world record.

The slim Japanese champ held the record for hot dog eating from 2001 to 2007. After refusing to sign an exclusive contract with Major League Eating, the fast-food equivalent of the NFL, he was banned from the competition last year.

But he showed up anyway, wearing a T-shirt that said "Free Kobi," rushed the stage and was arrested. Charges of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, obstruction of property and trespassing were later dropped.

This year, the Japanese native nicknamed the "Tsunami" held the unofficial contest from a rooftop on ritzy Fifth Avenue, eating near a giant plasma TV airing the official competition live.

The annual spectacle on Coney Island draws tens of thousands of holiday revelers, watching as contestants shimmy, slither and bounce as they dip hot dogs in water and cram them down their throats.

For some, it's a painful reminder of excess—especially as the U.S. battles a growing obesity problem. The American Medical Association opposes competitive eating, saying it's harmful to the human body.

"I am disgusted watching them, in a world where we try to do our best not to overeat and become obese," said contest viewer Eve Harrison, 42, a New York City art dealer who lives in North Salem, N.Y.

And hot dogs aren't exactly the healthiest of choices. In addition to beef, they include salt and various food additives, including sorbitol and hydrolyzed soy.

But the competitive eaters are quite trim. Chestnut is over 6 feet tall and a muscly 218 pounds, and Thomas and her rival Lee weighed in at barely 100 pounds each.

"I don't think it's supposed to be seen as anything other than a satire," attendee Eli Pearlstein said of the competition.

And for one scorching summer day, it's a good fit for that most American of places—kitschy Coney Island.

Joining the 2011 men's lineup were three new contestants flown in from China—the next big target market for the Nathan's brand.

Master of ceremonies George Shea acknowledged that the eating contest is one big sales gimmick—for Nathan's products. It's been a wild marketing success.

In the past seven years, Nathan's revenues have soared by more than 90 percent, with more than 450 million hot dogs sold annually and the value of its publicly traded shares tripling. Nathan's donated 100,000 hot dogs to the food bank before the competition.

In the end, the contest is less about food than hunger for money.

Major League Eating organizes about 100 eating events for such varied foods as oysters, cheesesteak and asparagus—sponsored by brands like 7-Eleven, Roy Rogers, Krystal and Harrah's.

On Monday, visitors enjoyed new Italian-made amusement park rides that are part of Mayor Michael Bloomberg's vision for the redevelopment of the People's Playground on Coney Island. The seaside neighborhood served as an escape for generations of Americans, but fell into seedy disrepair in recent years.

The first hot dog was sold here by German-born butcher Charles Feltman, but it was his Polish-born employee, Nathan Handwerker, who really scored by opening his own business in 1916—Nathan's Famous.

According to local lore, the Nathan's contest was started by immigrant men arguing about who was most American. They settled their dispute by trying to out-eat each other. Irishman Jim Mullen won with a paltry 13 dogs.

# Prince William performs water landings in Canada

**DALVAY BY-THE-SEA, Prince Edward Island** (AP)—Prince William enjoyed showing off his military helicopter training with his first-ever water landing Monday to the delight of anxious crowds in Canada, where he and his wife, Kate, have been on their first official overseas trip since their wedding.

The Duke of Cambridge climbed into the cockpit of a Sea King helicopter for the military training exercise at Dalvay by-the-Sea, a scenic resort along Prince Edward Island's north shore. Prince William, a Royal Air Force rescue helicopter pilot, requested the simulated emergency landing procedure.

Dressed in an olive flight suit and helmet, the prince—who is second in line to the throne—settled the large helicopter on the water several times over the course of an hour.

From the water, William piloted several takeoffs and hovered in the air before executing dual- and single-engine landings before taxiing around as Kate watched from the ground.

"He was looking for his wife on the shoreline at one point," said Col. Sam Michaud, 42, who trained William. "She was waving back about 100 feet away."

Michaud said William is now fully trained. He said William remarked that the "boys back at his squadron would be absolutely jealous."

Canada is the only country that trains its Sea King helicopter pilots to do a controlled landing on water if there's an emergency. The exercise William performed Monday is known as water-birding, and if the number of times he tried it was any indication, the prince was enjoying the technique. The Sea King, which William flies back in the U.K, has the ability to land on water because of its amphibious hull.

Maj. Pat MacNamara called him a star pilot.

"I would suggest he was having quite a bit of fun," MacNamara said. "He said it was one of the highlights of his trip."

Prince Edward Island resident Linda Patton, 60, said she was nervous watching the prince fly.

"It was thrilling to watch and a little nerve-racking I must admit, especially the ones he was hovering and came straight down" Patton said.

The duke will take the landing technique back home with him to use in his job, said royal press secretary Miguel Head.

"The Duke of Cambridge is, first and foremost, a search-and-rescue pilot—that's his job and it's a job he's very proud to do," said Head. "When (William) took the decision to come to Canada, one of the things he actually asked to do was to do this."

The royal pair then got to flex their muscles by paddling in two dragon boats to race against each other. Kate, dressed in black sportswear, got to demonstrate her athletic prowess while on the water by taking the stern of her boat. She trained as part of a dragon boat crew in 2007, and the rivalry with William appeared to be genuine.

William gripped his paddle to execute a strong stroke, while Kate moved from the stern to paddle in her boat. The prince's boat won the short race by a hair and William exited the boat to give Kate a warm consolation hug. Kate playfully gave William a shove, as if to push him in the water.

"There's no chivalry in sport," William jokingly told Kate as he was presented with a bottle of champagne for winning the race.

"Sadly, we lost," she said, laughing, to Christine Dapart, one of the spectators in the crowd as the royal couple made their way to a pavilion where regional performers were on hand to demonstrate Celtic and Acadian dance and song.

Later, the royal couple met an actress who plays the fictional star of "Anne of Green Gables," the classic Canadian novel by Lucy Maud Montgomery for which Prince Edward Island is famed. Actress Tess Benger, 23, who performs as Anne in a play, gave Kate a copy of the book. Kate, a fan of the novel and its sequels, told her she would read it again.

In a tent, the couple sampled the island's food. William put his hands on his stomach and joked about eating too much on the trip. He passed on the oyster tasting, saying to Kate "this is where you take over."

They tasted Island beef with sweet onion marmalade, lobster and potato chowder, pork and beef belly and strawberry shortcake. The couple later observed a search and rescue operation.

The Duke and Dutchess of Cambridge, as they are officially known, were on the fifth of a nine-day trip to Canada, part of their first official overseas trip since their April 29 wedding.

They were welcomed to their third Canadian province Monday with cheering, waving crowds excited to catch a glimpse of royalty at Province House. The site is the home of Prince Edward Island's legislature and of a historic meeting 146 years ago that paved the way for Canada's eventual unification and independence.

On Monday morning, Kate sported a cream dress by Sarah Burton for the British fashion house of Alexander McQueen, who designed her royal wedding gown. William wore his traditional dark suit and red tie. Kate later wore dark skinny jeans and a navy-belted trenchcoat with a bright red scarf from Burton's wardrobe at Dalvay by-the-Sea.

For the third time during the trip, William spoke in French and English to address the crowds.

"We have both so looked forward to this day, and discovering more about your beautiful island," he said.

The royal pair delighted the several thousand people gathered at the site by walking over to shake hands and stop for a quick chat, while some handed them flowers, including the east coast Canadian flower, Lupins, and hand-held Canadian flags, while snapping photos.

The smiling couple hopped into a landau led by Canadian Mounties to take them to Confederation Landing for another walkabout before heading to the resort at Dalvay by-the-Sea.

The royal pair left Canada's smallest province late Monday afternoon for Yellowknife, the capital of the sparsely-populated Northwest Territories. They leave for a three-day trip to California on July 8.

# In 'Drop Dead Diva,' a hit that she never imagined

By DAVID HILTBRAND
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Brooke Elliott stars in Lifetime Television's series "Drop Dead Diva," airing Sundays at 9 p.m. ET. MCT

**PHILADELPHIA**—It's one of TV's unlikelier success stories.

Brooke Elliott was a stage trouper, performing in the national tours of musicals such as "Wicked" and "Beauty and the Beast."

Then her agent told her about a prospective Lifetime series, "Drop Dead Diva," that might suit her.

"I had a Broadway show audition that day, too," Elliott says. "I thought, 'Oh well, maybe I'll get the play. I don't have a shot at the TV show.'"

To her astonishment, she got the part—a role that requires some explanation.

Elliott plays Jane Bingum, a smart and zaftig lawyer, who is possessed by the spirit of Deb Dobkins, a shallow and skinny model.

"Deb's soul is in Jane's body," says the actress. The polar opposites have to find a way to coexist. The premise provides a steady stream of humor and pathos.

Even after she was cast, Elliott tried to keep her enthusiasm curbed.

"I had very few expectations, probably because I didn't know the TV world that well," she says. "Plus I had people say, 'Well, pilots rarely go to series.' I figured I'd go do the pilot and be back in New York in a month."

Not only did "Drop Dead Diva" get picked up, it was an instant hit for Lifetime. The recent debut of the third season notched 2.9 million viewers against some very stiff competition on cable, including the season finales of "Game of Thrones" and "The Killing."

"When I started this role, I really wanted to make sure that Deb/Jane had a great sense of humor," says Elliott. "I wanted her to be able to laugh at herself. And I wanted her to have a really big heart."

Maybe it's "DDD's" themes of identity and personal transformation. Maybe it's the show's broad comedic streak. Or maybe it's the random song-and-dance numbers, but "Diva's" been able to pull an illustrious and eclectic parade of guest stars, including Liza Minnelli, Tim Gunn, Rosie O'Donnell, Clay Aiken, Wendy Williams, LeAnn Rimes and Jennifer Tilly.

The series appeals to both genders, although men were reluctant to admit their allegiance.

"In the beginning, I would hear, 'Cool show. My wife makes me watch it' or 'My girlfriend has it on in the background,'" says Elliott.

"By season two there was no more justification. Guys would say, 'I love the show.'"

The actress struggled at first with the long hours and hermetic work environment.

"I had to get used to the fact that there was no audience there anymore," she says. "Here I am doing comedy and no one's laughing. You have to trust your instincts—know if you hit it or not and move on."

No one is going to confuse "DDD's" courtroom scenes with Perry Mason-style solemnity.

"This is different from most law shows because I'm really playing a person within the lawyer," she says. "If she doesn't know something, it's accepted. She often resorts to theatrics."

The protagonist's dueling personalities make even romance tricky. Before she died, Deb's boyfriend was Grayson (Jackson Hurst), an attorney at Jane's firm.

She's still in love with him, but now she has to try to gain his affection without the flowing blond locks and the Barbie-doll body.

After two seasons of romantic tension and impediments, the couple seem headed for a happy ending. Maybe.

"We do sleep together," teases Elliott. "But there's a twist to that."

We'd expect no less in the inside-out world of "Drop Dead Diva."

# 3-D helps lift 'Transformers' to $400M global haul

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The "Transformers" robots have put their 3-D ticket-price advantage to good use.

Distributor Paramount Pictures estimated Monday that "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" pulled in $116.4 million domestically over the four-day Fourth of July weekend and $181.1 million since opening Tuesday night.

Director Michael Bay's third installment in the sci-fi franchise has added $217 million overseas, bringing its worldwide total to nearly $400 million.

The studio says 60 percent of domestic business came from premium-priced 3-D admissions, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D screenings. Overseas, 3-D admissions accounted for 70 percent of ticket sales.

That's a good sign for Hollywood's 3-D business, which had waned as 3-D revenues dipped to 50 percent or less of the total for some recent releases.

"It proves that for 3-D to be successful, it has to be attached to the right kind of movie. This was this monumental Michael Bay blockbuster, and for something like that, people felt it's worth the money," said Paul Dergarabedian, analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "It's all about maintaining good quality. If they see three 3-D movies in a row that look terrible, they're not going to put the money down again."

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, the animated adventure "Cars 2," slipped steeply in its second weekend with $32.1 million domestically, the movie losing steam more quickly than past features from Disney's Pixar Animation outfit.

"Cars 2" raised its domestic total to $123 million and topped $200 million worldwide.

The weekend's other new wide releases opened back in the pack. Universal Pictures' recession romance "Larry Crowne" opened quietly at No. 4 with $15.7 million despite the star power of writer-director Tom Hanks and co-star Julia Roberts. The movie stars Hanks as a downsized retail worker who heads back to school, where he falls for his public-speaking teacher (Roberts).

While "Transformers" and "Cars 2" played to young audiences, the over-35 crowd accounted for 81 percent of the audience for "Larry Crowne." Movies appealing to older audiences tend to stick around longer in theaters, and Universal executives hope fans will seek out the movie once Fourth of July festivities are behind them.

"For adults who are always preoccupied with barbecues and entertaining and family, my expectations were never greater than this," said Nikki Rocco, the studio's head of distribution.

Despite a big start for "Dark of the Moon," overall business slipped compared to last Fourth of July weekend. According to Hollywood.com, domestic revenues Friday to Monday came in at $239 million, down 4.5 percent from a year ago, when "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse" opened with $83.6 million and "The Last Airbender" debuted with $51.8 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Monday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Tuesday.

1. "Transformers: Dark of the Moon," $116.4 million ($217 million international).
2. "Cars 2," $32.1 million ($24.4 million international).
3. "Bad Teacher," $17.6 million.
4. "Larry Crowne," $15.7 million.
5. "Super 8," $9.5 million.
6. "Monte Carlo," $8.8 million.
7. "Green Lantern," $8 million.
8. "Mr. Popper's Penguins," $6.9 million.
9. "Bridesmaids," $4.4 million ($7.2 million international).
10. "Midnight in Paris," $4.3 million.

# Malia Obama becomes a teenager on Fourth of July

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—A teenager now lives at the White House.

Malia Obama, the eldest of President Barack Obama's two daughters, turned 13 on the Fourth of July, which is U.S. Independence Day.

As usual, she was sharing her parents with hundreds of others on her special day.

Obama and first lady Michelle Obama invited hundreds of troops and their families from across the country to attend a special barbecue and USO concert on the South Lawn. There they will have one of the best views of the annual fireworks show on the National Mall.

Malia's birthday has been a source of angst for the president, whose recent public comments on that milestone have ranged from fear of what lies ahead to acceptance that daddy's little girl is, well, growing up.

Obama recently told a television interviewer that Malia and her sister Sasha, 10, are kind, respectful, responsible and well-behaved.

"I could not ask for better kids," he said. "I'm not anticipating complete mayhem for the next four, five years. But I understand teenage-hood is complicated."

Still, Obama has sounded anxious about watching his girls grow into young adults.

At a re-election campaign fundraiser in New York City last month featuring "Sister Act" star Whoopi Goldberg, Obama joked that the 1992 movie helped him figure out where to send his daughters. In the flick, Goldberg plays a Reno, Nevada, lounge singer who is hidden in a convent and disguised as a nun under the witness protection program after seeing a murder.

"They're getting a little too old and too cute," Obama said of Malia and Sasha.

But Obama, who is approaching a milestone birthday of his own—he turns 50 on Aug. 4—also has seemed accepting of the inevitable. At a news conference last Wednesday at the White House, the president twice said Malia was 13. That was five days before her actual birthday.

# Lady Gaga: I'll tour all over Asia

**TAIPEI, Taiwan** (AP)—Lady Gaga says she is planning to tour throughout Asia, a day after giving a scintillating mini-concert that attracted some 40,000 people in the central Taiwanese city of Taichung.

Speaking to reporters from the gold lame throne-type chair she shared with her Chanel handbag at a Taipei hotel, she thanked Taiwanese fans for their support, saying her Taichung gig left her with "a special memory."

Gaga has been pursued by throngs of Taiwanese reporters throughout her four-day stay and has rarely disappointed either the press or fans.

At Monday's press conference, she sported a camellia display on her black and blonde two-tone hair, black, ultrahigh heels and tipless gloves revealing long claw-like nails.

She is scheduled to leave Taiwan on Tuesday.

AP

International pop diva Lady Gaga attends a press conference in Taipei, Taiwan, Monday, July 4, 2011.

# Miss Brazil robbed at gunpoint in front of home

**SAO PAULO** (AP)—Miss Brazil has been robbed at gunpoint in front of her home.

Lyra

The Miss Brazil pageant press office says that Debora Lyra was held up at gunpoint as she approached the entrance of her gated condo in Sao Paulo on Sunday.

Monday's statement says a well-dressed man with a pistol approached Lyra as she pulled up to her condominium. He took her purse, which contained her documents, cell phones and credit cards. He also took the car, which she had been given for winning the 2010 pageant.

She then tweeted in frustration: "For how long will these criminals keep doing this? I was just robbed at the entrance to my house."

Lyra will pass her title to the winner of the 2011 Miss Brazil pageant on July 23.

# Harry Potter star says he no longer drinks

**LONDON** (AP)—Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe said he has given up drinking alcohol after realizing he was partying too hard.

In this Sunday, Aug. 23, 2009 file photo, British actor Daniel Radcliffe stands during the fourth day of the fifth Ashes cricket test match between England and Australia at the Oval cricket ground, London. AP

The 21-year-old actor says he began to drink too much while filming "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince," the sixth movie in the Harry Potter series, in 2009.

He said; "I became so reliant on (alcohol) to enjoy stuff. There were a few years there when I was just so enamored with the idea of living some sort of famous person's lifestyle that really isn't suited to me."

He added that he decided to cut out drinking altogether, instead of simply cutting down.

"As much as I would love to be a person that goes to parties and has a couple of drinks and has a nice time—that doesn't work for me. I do that very unsuccessfully," he said.

"I'd just rather sit at home and read, or go out to dinner with someone, or talk to someone I love, or talk to somebody that makes me laugh."

Radcliffe was speaking to GQ magazine in an interview released Monday.

Radcliffe shot to fame aged 11 after he was cast as Harry Potter for the movie adaptations of J.K. Rowling's popular books about a teenage wizard.

Many child actors have struggled to cope with adulthood, but Radcliffe said he was determined to prove that child actors could go on to build long careers.

"If I can make a career for myself after Potter, and it goes well, and is varied and with longevity, then that puts to bed the 'child actors argument,'" he said.

The last movie in the series "Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows: Part II" premieres on Thursday.

# Man arrested over Paris Hilton restraining order

**MALIBU, Calif.** (AP)—Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies have arrested a man accused of violating a restraining order that bars him from being within 200 yards of Paris Hilton or her home.

The sheriff's department says in a statement that someone called authorities Monday afternoon and reported a man standing on a beach looking into Hilton's Malibu home.

The caller recognized the man as James Rainford. He pleaded no contest to a battery charge in April after Hilton's then-boyfriend Cy Waits was attacked outside a courthouse.

Deputies who responded were met by numerous paparazzi who pointed out Rainford standing on the beach.

Rainford was arrested without incident and is being held on $20,000 bail.

The arrest comes less than a week after a man convicted of trying to burglarize Paris Hilton's home was sentenced to two years in prison.

Hilton

# Wife in the dark about affairs wants husband to shed light

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

**DEAR ABBY:** How can I forget and forgive my husband for his actions? It has been only a few months since I found out about his affairs—which lasted over four months with three different women. One was more intense than the others. He says he has broken off all contact with them and is only with me now.

When I learned about the affairs, I had no information other than he was having one. Someone I didn't know told me, so I did not have much to go on. I have asked my husband some questions, but he refuses to answer them. He says I should let it go and move on, that my questions will lead to no good, and if I don't stop I'm going to push him away.

I think about what he has done and different scenarios daily and try to ignore the hurt, but it's hard. Should I ask questions, should he answer them, and will this pain ever go away? We are "trying," and I'm running mostly on love and the hope that our relationship will survive.

IN PAIN IN PITTSBURGH

**DEAR IN PAIN: Of course you should be asking questions because you have the right to know the answers. And if your husband is truly repentant, he should answer them. Your pain will persist unless you both have counseling to understand what triggered his four-month "fling." If he refuses to go, go without him.**

**Frankly, I am troubled by your statement that your husband is threatening you'll push him away if you pursue the answers you deserve. That doesn't appear to me to be the behavior of a contrite spouse.**

**If you haven't already done so, see your physician and be tested for STDs. All of the emotions you're experiencing are normal, but whether your relationship will survive under the present circumstances is debatable.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I'm a married woman in my 40s, raising a family. I work full-time doing a physical job outdoors and after work I'm often worn out.

My hobby is art. I have drawn and painted since I was very young. My problem is, I'm afraid to say no when relatives ask me to do arts and crafts for them. They even volunteer me to do projects for their friends. If money is offered, I usually turn it down.

The issue is the time involved. I'm stressed out. I drop everything when I get these requests, and I'm starting to feel overwhelmed and annoyed. I have to do these projects before and after my regular job and on weekends. My house and family get neglected. And because I can't devote the necessary time to the projects, I'm unhappy with the result.

I have dropped hints about how I'm tired after working a full-time job, but no one seems to care. How can I tell them I need a break without upsetting them?

BURNED-OUT PICASSO

**DEAR BURNED-OUT: You need to learn to say no. For a people-pleaser this can present a challenge, but in your case it should be followed with, "I'm too busy to take that on right now." You should also rethink your refusal to accept the offer of money. If you do, it will probably result in your being asked to do projects less often—trust me on that.**

**Also consider this: If you turn your hobby into a little side business and charge for your talent, it may enable you to fund projects that will give you some of the psychic gratification you're missing.**

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

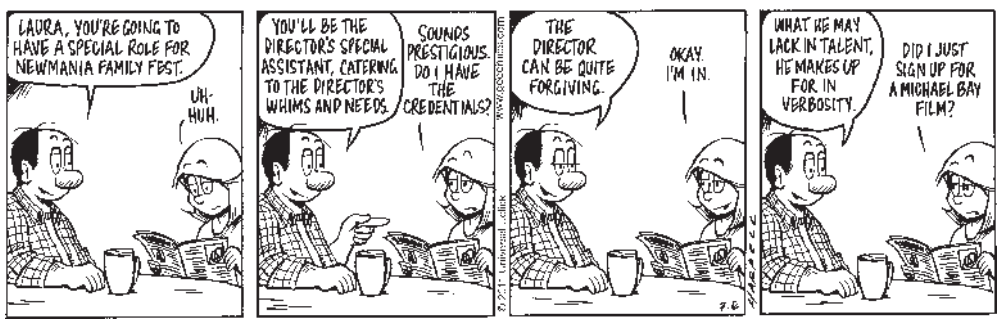
CALVIN, YOUR MOTHER AND I HAVE DECIDED TO GIVE YOU AN ALLOWANCE.
IT'S IMPORTANT THAT ONE LEARNS THE VALUE OF MONEY.
MONEY! HA HA HA! I'M RICH! I'M RICH! I CAN BUY OFF ANYONE! THE WORLD IS MINE!
POWER! FRIENDS! PRESTIGE!
I BLEW IT AGAIN, DEAR!
I CAN BUY IT ALL! I'M FREE! HA HA HA HA!
7/6

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LAURA, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A SPECIAL ROLE FOR NEWMANIA FAMILY FEST.
UH-HUH.
YOU'LL BE THE DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT, CATERING TO THE DIRECTOR'S WHIMS AND NEEDS.
SOUNDS PRESTIGIOUS. DO I HAVE THE CREDENTIALS?
THE DIRECTOR CAN BE QUITE FORGIVING.
OKAY. I'M IN.
WHAT WE MAY LACK IN TALENT, WE MAKES UP FOR IN VERBOSITY.
DID I JUST SIGN UP FOR A MICHAEL BAY FILM?
7-6

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I CAN'T WAIT To See WHAT You HAVE PLANNED FOR MY BIRTHDAY.
THEN I HAVE Good News.
BECAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING AT WHAT I HAVE PLANNED FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY.
7-6

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

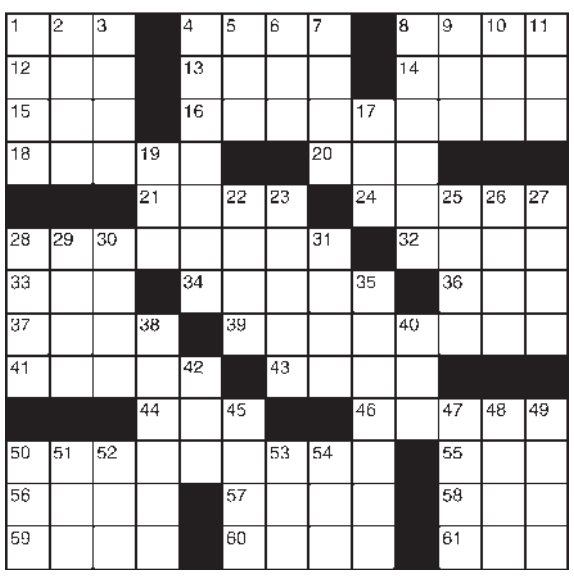
**ACROSS**
1 Go up and down
4 Gulf War missile
8 Mop the decks
12 Beerlike brew
13 Architect Saarinen
14 "Yo- — and a …"
15 Shelter
16 Sinatra classic
18 Decorator's theme
20 "A mouse!"
21 Castle protection
24 Mediterranean sailing ship
28 One's hands and knees
32 Limping
33 Conk out
34 Loses moisture
36 Auction offer
37 Colorless
39 Sane
41 "— alive!"
43 Zhivago's love
44 Dandy
46 Standard
50 "Get on the train!"
55 Crafty
56 Rind
57 Queue
58 Id counterpart
59 List-ending abbr.
60 Exam format
61 Novelist Brown

**DOWN**
1 Soothing ointment
2 Margarine
3 Borscht veggie
4 Red Lobster specialty
5 Animation frame
6 Web address
7 Be too fond
8 Israeli money
9 "Holy mackerel!"
10 "Eureka!"
11 Lad
17 Whammy
19 Global currency org.
22 Emanation
23 Vibrato
25 Infant
26 Eastern potentate
27 Relinquish
28 Does arithmetic
29 Old Italian coin
30 Secrecy thwarter
31 Actress Ward
35 Fruit pastry
38 Happen to
40 Owns
42 Weep loudly
45 Ralph Lauren label
47 Second-hand
48 Bit of plankton
49 Rhone city
50 Mimic
51 Allow
52 Meadow
53 Melody
54 Genetic stuff

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | L | F | A | ■ | W | A | L | T | ■ | S | O | P |
| B | A | L | I | ■ | A | G | E | E | ■ | I | I | L |
| C | O | U | R | T | R | O | O | M | ■ | A | L | A |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | W | I | N | G | ■ | P | A | T | S | Y |
| R | E | G | A | N | ■ | ■ | G | E | N | E | ■ | ■ |
| A | W | A | R | Y | ■ | M | I | N | S | T | R | E | L |
| S | E | E | ■ | D | O | N | A | I | ■ | O | R | E |
| P | R | F | C | I | N | C | T | ■ | D | O | G | F |
| ■ | ■ | N | I | N | A | ■ | ■ | A | R | M | O | R |
| S | C | R | A | G | ■ | L | A | D | Y | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| V | O | O | ■ | B | O | A | R | D | R | O | O | M |
| O | N | O | ■ | A | B | U | T | ■ | U | V | E | A |
| G | Y | M | ■ | T | I | D | Y | ■ | N | A | R | Y |

Yesterday's answer 7-6



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Matthew O'Leary, 24; 50 Cent, 36; Sylvester Stallone, 65; Ned Beatty, 74.

**Happy Birthday:** You will learn easily this year, so put yourself in a foreign environment where you will learn valuable lessons that help you move in a direction that better suits your needs. Don't worry so much about the burdens you face at home. Focus on getting them done so you can enjoy the company and activities that interest you most. Organization will enable you to fit everything in to your schedule. Your numbers are 2, 5, 14, 21, 34, 42, 44.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let your feelings get in the way of a good decision. Your productivity will falter if you take on too much or overreact to what's going on around you. Charm and diplomacy will be your saving grace. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): You have more going for you than you realize and must utilize all your skills, talents and experience to market yourself. Love is highlighted and can be enhanced if you share your successes with someone special. ✪✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Keep busy with projects that will bring you high returns. You need to work quickly and take advantage of whatever is offered. Put emotions aside when dealing with someone from your past. ✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): With a little tender loving care at home, you can turn a cluttered area into a spectacular entertainment room or anything else that suits your needs. Do what suits your needs, not what someone else wants. ✪✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You can chitchat all you want, but if you don't say something important, you will waste time that could be put to better use. An interest in someone is likely to lead to trouble if you don't keep things in perspective. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Finish what you start. You don't want to be criticized for something you didn't do. Networking with people from different backgrounds will lead to a new marketing idea. Romance should highlight the evening hours. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Procrastination is not going to help you out of a tight spot. Make a decision one way or another so you can keep moving. Don't be afraid to go it alone if you don't feel comfortable with new developments in a partnership. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do whatever you can to improve your health and emotional well-being. A creative change in lifestyle will help you financially. Letting go of things you no longer use will ease your stress. Love and romance are highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be pulled in too many directions if you are incapable of saying "no." Stand up and be counted when it comes to changes in your community. If you don't speak your mind, you will have no right to complain later. ✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You may feel powerful, but if you don't do things according to the rules, it isn't likely you will get what you want. Love is on the rise, and positive changes at home can be made. ✪✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Set guidelines that will enable you to achieve your goals. An interesting change at home will set the stage for the future. Don't be tempted to live beyond your means. You must stand on your own two feet if you want to gain respect. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Do something that interests you. A creative hobby or fun project you can do with someone you love will ease your stress. You should change your appearance or update the way you do things. Added discipline will help you finish something you promised to take care of. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are loyal and determined to reach your goals. You are compassionate, creative, bright and quick to react.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 8 | 6 | 7 | | | |
| | | 7 | | | 2 | | | |
| | 1 | | | 3 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | 9 | | | 8 | 5 |
| 3 | | | | | 5 | 7 | | 9 |
| | 5 | | | | | | | 1 |
| | | 2 | | | | | 4 | |
| | | | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 |
| 5 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 1 |
| 7 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 2 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 6 |

Difficulty Level ★★ 7-05

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**TEFLON POTS AND PANS** **Solution: 7 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | G | N | I | T | A | O | C | Y | T | I | S | N | E | D |
| L | O | S | E | C | A | F | R | U | S | N | Ⓢ | Ⓔ | Ⓣ | Ⓢ |
| E | E | O | E | C | N | A | T | S | I | S | E | R | S | E |
| A | C | D | K | E | E | L | S | A | E | S | E | R | A | C |
| N | N | N | E | W | T | C | T | L | C | E | I | I | O | N |
| I | A | S | A | T | A | S | O | R | N | R | N | N | R | A |
| N | R | U | E | N | C | R | U | M | E | U | V | N | E | R |
| G | U | B | A | N | E | E | E | R | I | T | E | O | N | A |
| R | D | S | R | S | S | T | T | E | C | A | N | V | I | E |
| I | N | T | S | O | A | I | N | O | S | R | T | A | A | P |
| D | E | A | T | L | I | I | T | I | R | E | I | T | T | P |
| D | C | N | S | E | L | L | L | I | A | P | O | I | N | A |
| L | K | C | I | L | S | C | E | O | V | M | N | V | O | N |
| E | H | E | A | T | I | N | G | R | O | E | H | E | C | S |
| S | H | I | N | E | P | A | R | C | S | T | O | U | G | H |

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Appearance, Broiler, Care, Casseroles, Cleaning, Coating, Container, Cookware, Cuisine, Density, Endurance, Griddles, Heating, Innovative, Invention, Line, Maintenance, Metal, Pans, Protected, Resistance, Roast, Rust, Science, Scrape, Sell, Sensitive, Sets, Shine, Sleek, Slick, Stains, Substance, Surface, Temperature, Tool, Tough

**Yesterday's Answer: Justice**

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

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1 br. furnished apt. near MHS with AC in a quiet area off Texas Rd. 24hrs water & own washing machine, ceiling fans in all rooms. $375, water included. Call Ed 788-6268.

## FOR SALE

Construction corporation with good records and a well known restaurant business for sale. For more information please call 483-1123.

## CARS FOR SALE

2005 Toyota Matrix; Color: Red; Mileage: 95,800; Excellent Condition! Sale Price: $6,500. 2008 Hyundai Tucson; Color: Green; Mileage: 45,000; Excellent Condition! Sale Price: $11,200. Interested, Call: 287-7676

WHATZIT Solution: Odd one out

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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- CECILIA NAPUTI RIOS, Defendant. | ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] | CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0425 NOTICE OF SALE |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 3, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 005 I 021, situated in Koblerville, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1, 051 square meters, more or less, as shown on Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 01, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 16706 on March 11, 1983, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, July 8, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 8th day of June, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Julie and Kontaro Suda
PPP Box 10000
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No.: (670) 288-6334

pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **In The Matter of the Adoption of: C.M.** Minor Child **By: JULIE SUDA and KONTARO SUDA,** Petitioners. | ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] | **FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0197 NOTICE OF HEARING** |

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on **July 11, 2011** at **1:30pm** in **Court-room 217**, before the Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2011.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK
By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
Championships in Australia on a high note after capturing the doubles crown in the U18 division of the five-day tournament.
CROSSWORD

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*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

| ADS | (PRINT) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|---|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $15 | $27 |
| • 5-Liner | $24 | $39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $24 | $42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $36 | $57 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

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# Farrar gives US a win on July 4 at Tour de France

AP

Tyler Farrar of the US forms a "W" as he crosses the finish line to win the third stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 198 kilometers (123 miles) starting in Olonne sur Mer, Vendee region, and finishing in Redon, Brittany, western France, Monday July 4, 2011.

**REDON, France** (AP)—Two months ago, Tyler Farrar was demoralized, sleeping 20 hours a day. He had even stopped riding, overcome by sorrow after his best friend died in a crash at the Giro d'Italia.

On Monday, Farrar became the first American to win a stage of the Tour de France on the Fourth of July. It was the first time he had won a stage in cycling's showcase race, and he dedicated the victory to the late Wouter Weylandt of Belgium.

"It's a little bit unbelievable to me at the moment that it actually happened," said Farrar, who pulled out of the Giro after the accident.

After crossing the finish line, Farrar held up his hands to form a "W" with his fingers and thumbs in tribute to Weylandt.

"This has been a horrible last two months with everything that happened in the Giro," Farrar said. "I've had a lot of ups and downs. But in the end, I wanted to be able to come back, and do something special to pay tribute, and this is certainly the biggest stage in the world to do that."

Farrar, a sprint specialist from Wenatchee, Wash., who rides for Garmin-Cervelo, sped ahead in the last few hundred yards of the 123-mile course from Olonne-sur-Mer to Redon to win the third stage. He has now won a stage in each of cycling's three-week major tours—France, Italy and Spain.

The previous American to win a Tour de France stage was Levi Leipheimer, who in 2007 was first in the individual time trial in Angouleme.

"I certainly would have taken it on any day," Farrar said. "But as an American, winning on the Fourth of July, it's the icing on the cake. ... Lucky me."

Norway's Thor Hushovd kept the Tour de France's yellow jersey. Hushovd, however, is a sprint specialist and is not expected to hold his lead through the mountains in the second and third weeks.

The top of the standings didn't change much after the mostly flat trip into western Brittany that included a ride on a wind-swept suspension bridge over the famed Loire River.

It was during the third stage of another race—the Giro in Italy on May 9—when Weylandt clipped a wall on a steep descent. He fell off his bike and slammed his head on the ground, dying almost instantly. It was the first death of a rider at one of the major tours in 16 years.

Jonathan Vaughters, the Garmin-Cervelo team manager, said that from the time Farrar was 15 years old Weylandt was his best friend.

"He was almost two weeks without riding his bike at all, and sleeping 20 hours every day, and just totally, totally, totally demoralized," he said. "But then he started training."

Farrar rode in the weeklong Dauphine Libere in France and the lesser-known Ster ZLM Tour in June. Vaughters said that was a "bit of a risk."

"It was probably the heaviest racing program of any sprinter," he said. "But we had to do it as an emergency to get him going because he had taken so much time off, which was understandable. But it got him in shape."

Vaughters said he wasn't going to push Farrar to ride again, adding that he would have understood if the 27-year-old American decided to wait until next year to race again.

"I simply said: 'Tyler when you are ready, we are ready to support you.'" he said. "That simple, really."

Farrar gave Garmin-Cervelo a second straight victory following a win in Sunday's time trial that left Hushovd with the yellow shirt.

Overall, Hushovd leads teammate David Millar of Britain, in second, by a split second. Cadel Evans of Australia of BMC is third, a second back. Three-time Tour champion Alberto Contador, who lost time Saturday after becoming entangled in a crash, is 69th—1:42 behind the Norwegian.

Others looking to contend for the title on the Champs-Elysees on July 24 include 2010 runner-up Andy Schleck of Luxembourg and Bradley Wiggins of Britain. Schleck is eighth overall and Wiggins is 10th, each four seconds off the lead.

In Monday's final dash, the HTC-Highroad team of British sprint star Mark Cavendish lined up near the 2.4-mile mark to escort him to the finish line. But by the last few hundred yards, Hushovd and Farrar had zoomed ahead.

"To have the world champion and yellow jersey work for you to launch the sprint, it's crazy," Farrar said.

The American nosed ahead of France's Romain Feillu, who was second, and Spain's Jose Joaquin Rojas, who was third. Farrar and a pack all had the same time: 4 hours, 40 minutes, 21 seconds.

Five breakaway riders jumped out early in the stage from the coastal town of Olonne-sur-Mer, building a lead of as much as 8 minutes, 5 seconds by the 46-mile mark. The fast-moving pack reeled them all in with 5.5 miles to go.

The 2-mile blustery ride over the Loire River temporarily broke up the pack. Another challenge was a sprint at Saint-Hilaire-de-Chaleons, about halfway through the stage.

There, Cavendish's hopes of winning the green jersey - awarded to the best sprinter - took a bad turn. Hushovd cut ahead of him and Cavendish responded by burrowing his head into the Norwegian's back.

Race officials penalized both men by docking them to the last places in the pack for the intermediate sprint, costing them crucial points for the green jersey. Cavendish says winning it is a goal this year. Hushovd has won that jersey twice, and says he's not aiming for it this year.

Hushovd could be pressured for the lead as soon as Tuesday when the pack travels 107 miles from Lorient to Mur de Bretagne with a super-steep, 1.2-mile uphill finish.

For now, Garmin is reveling in two straight days of success on the Tour.

"Just keep drinking champagne, as long as my liver can handle it," Vaughters said.

And about the Independence Day win?

"Yeah, an American winning on Fourth of July, that's pretty good—I just thought of that," he said. "We're going to have to read the Constitution in the bus or something."

## No gimmes allowed: US looking for win vs Sweden

**WOLFSBURG, Germany** (AP)—Rest is nice, winning is better.

The United States plays Sweden in the group stage finale at the Women's World Cup on Wednesday, a game that would seem to have little importance with both teams already through to the quarterfinals. But there is plenty still at stake for the Americans, starting with the bragging rights—and everything that comes with them—for winning the group.

"We go for a win," U.S. coach Pia Sundhage said Monday. "Absolutely."

The two-time World Cup champions need only a tie against Sweden to win Group C and likely avoid a quarterfinal matchup with Brazil. The Group C winner plays the second-place team in Group D, likely Australia or Norway, while the Group C runner-up gets the Group D winner.

Brazil, runner-up in 2007 and at the last two Olympics, needs only a draw against World Cup newcomer Equatorial Guinea to win Group D.

"I can safely say that there's not going to be one player or person or staff member from the United States that's going to say, 'We want a tie,'" Abby Wambach said. "We want to win this game because we want to keep the momentum going forward. Obviously, you have to be smart. We want to get some of those 90-minute players some rest if we can do that. But first and foremost, we want to make sure and secure the first place out of this group."

The United States is 18-4-7 against Sweden, including a 3-0 record in the World Cup. But Sweden beat the U.S. 2-1 in January, one of three losses in a five-month span after the Americans had gone more than two years without a loss.

Since arriving in Germany, however, the U.S. has had little resemblance to the team that struggled just to get there. Only Japan (six) has scored more than the five goals the Americans had in their first two games. France also has five goals.

Though Wambach and fellow forward Amy Rodriguez have yet to score, the U.S. is getting production from an abundance of players and places. Five different players have scored, including defender Rachel Buehler.

"We know that we're entertaining people," goalkeeper Hope Solo said. "We're not just winning games. You can see that swagger back in the U.S. team whether it's the way we celebrate goals, whether it's the way you can see we're enjoying the game again. It's not just that hard-fought, 'blood and guts glorified' game. It's the game we love."

Sweden, meanwhile, had tougher than expected games against both Colombia and North Korea, and will be without captain Caroline Seger. The midfielder is suspended after picking up her second yellow card Saturday against North Korea.

Sundhage will have to keep a close eye on Wambach, who is carrying a yellow card and would miss the quarterfinals if she gets another. But Sundhage will be watching her entire lineup closely.

While winning the game is the priority, Sundhage has been preaching a "21 players" mantra. As in, it will take all 21 on the squad to win the World Cup. She put Lori Lindsey into the starting lineup against Colombia and gave Shannon Boxx a break. She's already gotten World Cup rookies Alex Morgan and Tobin Heath onto the field as subs, and found a way to get high-energy Megan Rapinoe significant playing time.

Knowing the Americans are already into the quarterfinals would allow Sundhage to work a few more players into the mix. Or give a breather to those players who get the bulk of the minutes or are already nursing some aches and pains. Wambach (Achilles) and Heather O'Reilly (groin) both sat out practice Monday as a precaution.

"We don't have to force anything which is good," Sundhage said. "It would be totally different if this was a game that would take us to the quarterfinals but it's not. We have a chance to play probably some different players."

As long as it doesn't get in the way of the main objective, that is.

"We want to get a good result against Sweden, we want to play well," Wambach said. "That's the thing. We want to keep playing well, performing to our potential because we're going to continue to get better as the tournament goes on and, hopefully, we'll come into the championship game playing our best."

# Kearns' homer lifts Indians, spoils Jeter's return

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Austin Kearns hit his first homer in 105 at-bats this season, a stunning three-run shot in the seventh inning off New York's A.J. Burnett, to guide the Cleveland Indians to a 6-3 win and spoil Derek Jeter's return to the Yankees' lineup Monday night.

Jeter was back at shortstop and again atop the batting order for the first time since June 13, when he went on the disabled list with a calf injury. New York's captain went 0 for 4 and remained six shy of becoming the first Yankees player to reach 3,000 hits.

Josh Tomlin (10-4), who carried a no-hitter into the seventh, allowed two runs and three hits. The Indians' right-hander also became the first pitcher since 1919 to go at least five innings in each of his first 29 career appearances.

With two on and the Indians trailing 2-1, Kearns, who has been in a slump all season, hit a 1-0 pitch from Burnett (8-7) the opposite way to right for his first homer since Aug. 22, when he wore Yankee pinstripes.

AP

Cleveland Indians' Austin Kearns, right, is congratulated by Shelley Duncan after Kearns hit a three-run home run off New York Yankees starting pitcher A.J. Burnett in the seventh inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 4, 2011, in Cleveland.

### Twins 7, Rays 0

At Minneapolis, Brian Duensing overcame a shaky start to throw a six-hitter and Danny Valencia homered among his three hits for Minnesota.

Duensing (6-7) struck out seven and walked four for his second career shutout, giving struggling closer Matt Capps the day off.

David Price (8-7) gave up four runs on five hits with six strikeouts in six innings for the Rays.

Michael Cuddyer added a solo homer and Tsuyoshi Nishioka had a two-run double for the Twins.

### Blue Jays 9, Red Sox 7

At Boston, Travis Snider had three doubles and drove in a pair of runs and Aaron Hill homered as Toronto became the latest team to rough up John Lackey.

Hill also had an RBI single and Rajai Davis added two doubles for the Blue Jays, who had lost nine of 14.

The Blue Jays scored a run in the first, two in the second and chased Lackey (5-8) with four in the third. In seven Fenway starts, heLackey is 3-4 with a 9.17 ERA.

Toronto starter Brandon Morrow (5-4), allowed four runs on five hits, walking three and striking out five over five-plus innings. It was his third victory in four starts.

Snider, recalled from Triple-A Las Vegas on Sunday, doubled in his first three at-bats. He was sent down on April 29 after hitting just .184 in 25 games.

### Mariners 2, Athletics 1

At Oakland, Michael Pineda and three relievers combined on a three-hitter and Josh Bard hit his first home run of the season for Seattle.

Justin Smoak added a tiebreaking RBI double in the seventh inning for the Mariners, who opened a key seven-game road trip against division rivals with their third win in four games.

The strong start by Pineda (8-5) helped spoil the return of Brandon McCarthy (1-5) from the disabled list for Oakland. McCarthy faced the minimum batters through 5 2-3 innings but ended up losing his fifth straight decision. He gave up two runs and four hits in 6 2-3 innings and is 0-5 in his last eight starts despite having six quality starts in that span.

### White Sox 5, Royals 4

At Chicago, A.J. Pierzynski scored the winning run on a balk called on Aaron Crow in the ninth and the White Sox beat Kansas City after the Royals had tied it on a homer first ruled a triple in the top of the inning.

With the Royals trailing 4-3 in the ninth, Eric Hosmer led off with what appeared to be a homer off White Sox closer Sergio Santos (3-3). Second base umpire Alfonso Marquez signaled the ball was in play as Hosmer advanced to third. Royals manager Ned Yost contested the call, and the umpire reviewed it. Moments after the review, Marquez signaled a homer.

### Rangers 13, Orioles 4

At Arlington, Endy Chavez had his first four-RBI game in more than eight years with a long home run and a double in Texas' victory over Baltimore.

Adrian Beltre also homered for the Rangers. Michael Young had a single, double and an RBI triple while David Murphy drove in a pair of runs with three hits.

Colby Lewis (8-7) won his third straight decision, allowing three runs on a pair of homers over seven innings.

Orioles starter Chris Jakubauskas (2-2) gave up six runs and seven hits while facing only 13 batters.

Baltimore's Buck Showalter, who still has a house in the Dallas area, managed a game at Rangers Ballpark for the first time since he was fired by Texas after the 2006 season.

Mark Reynolds homered twice for Baltimore, giving him six in his last five games. J.J. Hardy also went deep.

### Angels 5, Tigers 1

At Anaheim, Torii Hunter and Vernon Wells homered and Joel Pineiro yielded five hits over seven solid innings as Los Angeles beat Detroit for its ninth win in 11 games.

Erick Aybar and Mark Trumbo had RBI singles for the Angels, who have surged into first place in the AL West with 14 wins in 19 games overall, winning six straight series.

Charlie Furbush (1-2) didn't make it out of the fifth in his first career start for the Tigers, yielding five hits and three runs—including one on a comical balk that allowed Peter Bourjos to trot home from third.

Jhonny Peralta hit an RBI single for the Tigers, who have lost five of seven.

Pineiro (4-3) walked three and managed just one strikeout, but largely avoided trouble in his fifth consecutive start without a loss.

### Pirates 5, Astros 3

At Pittsburgh, rookie Alex Presley had three of Pittsburgh's 14 hits and the Pirates moved three games over .500 this late in the season for the first time in 12 years with a 5-3 win over the Houston Astros.

A day after matching a season high for hits with 16, the Pirates' offense had 13 off Houston's Brett Myers (3-8) — the most he's allowed in 234 career starts.

Chase d'Arnaud, Garrett Jones, Neil Walker and Lyle Overbay each had two hits for Pittsburgh, which played in front of its fourth consecutive home sellout — another sign of how rare it is for the Pirates to be in contention.

Paul Maholm (5-9) allowed one earned run in six innings for the Pirates.

### Nationals 5, Cubs 4, 10 innings

At Washington, Jayson Werth turned boos to cheers by scoring the winning run on a wild pitch in the 10th inning as the Nationals snagged another one-run victory.

Werth opened the inning by drawing a walk off Marcos Mateo (1-2), then advanced on a sacrifice by pinch-hitting pitcher Livan Hernandez. Mateo was replaced by Carlos Marmol, and Werth stole third on Marmol's first pitch to Ivan Rodriguez.

Then Marmol uncorked a 2-2 pitch that sailed way outside to Rodriguez. Werth scored and was mobbed by his teammates.

Henry Rodriguez (3-1) pitched the 10th for the win.

### Phillies 1, Marlins 0

At Miami, Vance Worley pitched seven sharp innings and Philadelphia scored the only run on a close play in the seventh to beat Florida.

Michael Martinez, playing for an injured Shane Victorino, got his fifth RBI with a single to center. A sliding Domonic Brown barely beat the throw home, although a TV replay appeared to show he was out.

The Marlins argued only briefly, but twice had a player ejected for disputing other calls.

Worley (4-1) allowed two singles and walked two while lowering his ERA to 2.21 in 10 games. Antonio Bastardo pitched a hitless ninth for his fifth save to complete a two-hitter for the Phillies, who lead the majors with 13 shutouts.

The Phillies have won 20 of their past 24 games in Miami.

### Cardinals 1, Reds 0

At St. Louis, Chris Carpenter outdueled Cincinnati Reds nemesis Johnny Cueto with eight impressive innings, then watched from the dugout as pinch-hitter Mark Hamilton drove in the lone run with an infield hit for St. Louis.

Cueto (5-3) allowed six hits in eight innings in his first appearance against the Cardinals since he spiked Carpenter on the back and dealt Jason LaRue a career-ending concussion with kicks during a brawl in Cincinnati Aug. 11. Cueto and Brandon Phillips, whose bat tap to catcher Yadier Molina's shin guard had precipitated the bench-clearing fight, were both booed at every opportunity.

Jon Jay robbed Jay Bruce with a leaping catch at the right-field wall to end the fourth and retreated while battling the sun for another fine grab on Edgar Renteria's drive near the warning track with two on in the seventh.

Carpenter (4-7) has won three straight starts, digging himself out of the worst hole of his career, and is 13-4 against Cincinnati.

### Padres 5, Giants 3

At San Francisco, Will Venable hit his second home run of the season and San Diego pounced on Tim Lincecum in a victory over San Francisco.

Chase Headley, Orlando Hudson and Ryan Ludwick each had an RBI off Lincecum (6-7) to chase the Giants' ace after five innings. Nick Hundley added an RBI single in the eighth and Venable's solo shot came in the ninth.

Clayton Richard (5-9) struck out two and gave up two hits and three walks in five innings. After two separate four-game losing streaks this season, the lefty has won three straight.

Heath Bell allowed a run in the ninth and put the potential tying runs in scoring position with one out. Then he got Andres Torres to fly out and Aaron Rowand to ground out for his 25th save.

Pablo Sandoval hit a two-run homer into McCovey Cove and finished a triple shy of the cycle for the Giants.

### Diamondbacks 8, Brewers 6

At Milwaukee, Chris Young drove in the go-ahead run with a two-out single in the ninth inning as Arizona overcame a grand slam by pitcher Shaun Marcum, rallying from a five-run deficit to beat slumping Milwaukee.

The Diamondbacks scored in every inning from the fourth through ninth after falling into a 6-1 hole against the best home team in the majors.

Miguel Montero and Wily Mo Pena homered for the Diamondbacks, who have lost six of nine.

John Axford (2-2) took the loss.

### Braves 4, Rockies 1

At Atlanta, Freddie Freeman homered twice to drive in three runs and Tommy Hanson combined with two relievers on a four-hitter and Atlanta beat Colorado.

Freeman's two-run shot in the first inning drove in Brian McCann, who singled with two outs off Ubaldo Jimenez (3-8). The rookie first baseman hit his 11th homer in the eighth off Matt Reynolds.

Jimenez was facing the Braves for the first time since throwing a no-hitter at Turner Field on April 17, 2010. It was the first no-hitter in Rockies history.

Hanson (10-4) gave up one run on four hits and one walk in seven innings. He had six strikeouts while lowering his ERA to 2.52. He ranks among the league leaders in wins and ERA but wasn't selected to the NL All-Star team.

Jonny Venters worked around a walk in the eighth and Craig Kimbrel pitched a perfect ninth for his 25th save.

### Mets 5, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Angel Pagan, Carlos Beltran and Daniel Murphy had RBI doubles in the sixth inning after the Mets were held hitless through five by Rubby De La Rosa before New York went on to beat Los Angeles.

Chris Capuano (8-7) allowed six hits and two runs in six innings. The left-hander struck out five and walked two in winning his third decision in a row.

Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth to earn his 21st save in 24 chances. The Mets won their second consecutive game without All-Star shortstop Jose Reyes, who sat out with a strained left hamstring.

De La Rosa (3-4) gave up five hits and three runs over seven innings in his sixth career start, losing his fourth straight outing. The last-place Dodgers dropped their third in a row and fifth in their last six.

# Pacific Games fundraisers this month

The Saipan Major League Baseball Association and the CNMI National Baseball Team are putting on multiple fundraising events from now through August to help defray costs for Team CNMI's participation in the upcoming 2011 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia.

SMLBA is organizing a softball tournament from July 22 to July 24 at the Capitol Hill Ballfield. The entry fee to participate is $150 and is payable to SMLBA.

The tournament will utilize a double-elimination format. Cash and in-kind prizes will be awarded to the Top 2 finishers.

A homerun derby will also be held during the event, where a separate cash prize will go to the winner.

"The SMLBA and the CNMI national baseball team are encouraging all baseball and softball enthusiasts to support this worthy fundraising cause. Your support and generosity will be greatly appreciated," said SML president Tony Rogolifoi.

Rogolifoi also welcomed any help from local businesses who would like to help sponsor the team.

Team CNMI will also be selling hot lunches for $5 per plate on July 15 and July 29 at Capitol Hill Ballfield.

CNMI all-star players are also selling raffle tickets to help raise additional funding. The raffle drawing will take place sometime in mid-August; in-kind prizes will be awarded to multiple winners.

In addition, an organizational meeting for Team CNMI will be held on July 20, 6:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium pavilion. All interested are invited to attend.

The 2011 Pacific Games in Noumea will be held from Aug. 27 to Sept. 10, 2011.

For more information about any of the events or activities listed above, contact Tony Rogolifoi at 288-5426. ***(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Franco Flores gets ready to pitch for the CNMI during their championship game against Palau in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau. The Commonwealth is hoping to compete in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia and will be holding a fundraiser for their Noumea trip.

# PIC to host Lazer Tag tourney on July 16

Pacific Islands Club is hosting its 2nd Annual Lazer Tag Tournament on July 16.

Registration will take place at 5pm the day of the competition at PIC's southern lot; games begin at 5:45pm.

The entry fee is only $10 per person and will be limited to the first 16 teams. Prizes are up for grabs to the winners, but are still being determined. All participants must wear running shoes.

Entry forms and a list of the rules can be found at the PIC information desk or at the SEA office from 9am to 6pm. All payments to participate should also be made at the PIC information desk daily during the hours listed above.

Teams will consist of three players and will battle it out in head-to-head elimination matches at PIC's Lazer Tag Park. Each player will be allotted a certain amount of "ammunition" and "lives" in each match. Matches will be limited to three to five minutes.

Games will start with "capture the flag" style pool play and conclude with double-elimination "slayer" battles.

Along with PIC, Pacific Trading Co.'s Miller-Lite, Gatorade, and Pepsi are sponsoring the event.

For more information, contact PIC's Dennis Tababa at 237-5173 or email sportsmanager@picsaipan.com. ***(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)***

## Mayweather takes a hit in court fight with Pacquiao

**LAS VEGAS** — Unbeaten US fighter Floyd Mayweather might not be climbing into the ring with Filipino star Manny Pacquiao any time soon, but he has taken a hit in their ongoing legal battle.

US District Judge Larry Hicks has denied a request by Mayweather to delay a deposition in Pacquiao's defamation case against the US fighter, who Pacquiao claims defamed him by saying he used performance-enhancing drugs.

Hicks upheld a lower court order for Mayweather to give his deposition, which had been scheduled for June 17, saying Mayweather's request for a postponement was "without merit", having no legal basis behind it.

"Floyd Mayweather Jr. still is refusing to show up for his deposition," said Pacquiao attorney Daniel Petrocelli. "He continues to defy the court's order."

Mayweather, 41-0 with 25 knockouts, plans to end a 16-month layoff with a September 17 fight against US southpaw Victor Ortiz, the World Boxing Council welterweight champion who is 29-2-2 with 22 knockouts.

But the fight that fans have been longing for is a showdown between Pacquiao, 53-3 with two drawn and 38 knockouts, and Mayweather.

Talks between Mayweather and Pacquiao failed over Mayweather's insistence that "Pac-Man" take blood doping tests within three weeks of the fight, something Pacquiao did not want to do and under typical US doping rules would not have had to do.

Mayweather's rhetoric in trying to pressure Pacquiao into accepting the extra tests, according to Pacquiao, included invalid Mayweather claims that Pacquiao took performance-enhancing drugs.

The dispute with Pacquiao, however, is not the only legal battle Mayweather is facing.

Mayweather faces a July 29 preliminary hearing on felony domestic violence charges that could put him behind bars for 34 years stemming from an dispute last September with former girlfriend Josie Harris.

Mayweather, 33, is accused of striking and threatening her, stealing her mobile telephone and threatening two children he had with Harris. ***(AFP)***

## CNMI

*From Page 28*

petition when she topped the 400m run. She also set CNMI and Micronesian marks in the 100m and 200m races and clinched bronze medals in the two sprint events. Ichihara claimed a bronze medal in the long jump, while Kenty did the same in the 110m hurdles.

"Yvonne's performance was remarkable as she made it to the finals three times and won medals in these events. Ryan (Ichihara) had personal best times in 100m and 200m sprints, so did Clayton (Kenty). Sylvan (Rangamar) did his season-best throw in discus. Ryan didn't fair too well in the long jump because the 200m sprints and long jump was scheduled at the same time so he couldn't quite get his timing and rhythm after his 200m run," Rangamar said. "

"Overall, the team did very well. Gone are the days when we went to these trips for experience. Team Marianas is now expected to compete and win at this level. It is a mindset that we have to embrace," he added.

The CNMI is expected to deliver more significant performances this year as NMA is scheduled to compete in a few more tournaments before the season ends.

One of them is the 2011 IAAF World Youth Championships in Athletics in Lille, France with Reylynn Sapong representing the CNMI. Sapong left Saipan last Sunday to compete in the 100m race of the prestigious event that will run from July 6 to 10 at the 18,500-seater Stadium Lille Metropole-Villeneuve d'Ascq.

After the tournament in France, NMA will also send one athlete to the 13th World Championships in Athletics in Daegu, South Korea. The competition is scheduled to take place from Aug. 27 to Sept. 4. NMA has yet to decide its representative in the tournament.

The 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia will start on the same date the world championships in Korea will begin and NMA will have a three-athlete delegation in Douglas Dillay, Rachel Abrams, and Trevor Ogumoro.

Last Sunday, NMA sent Mamiko Oshima-Berger to the 2011 Gold Coast Airport Marathon and the 41-year-old runner was one of the 4,548 finishers in the annual event after clocking in three hours, 53 minutes, and 30 seconds.

## UMPIRE

*From Page 28*

observing game or match intervals that should not be more than 60 and 120 second with a 20-second last reminder.

"You don't want to lose a game or match just because you failed to return to the court on time," said Bleaken.

NMBA president Jerry Tan, who helped facilitate the umpire clinic, encouraged association members to follow these simple, but official rules not only in tournaments, but also even during pickup games.

"So by the time we host a big tournament and bring off-island players and officials, we won't embarrass ourselves. We need to conduct ourselves in a very professional manner," Tan said.

Meanwhile, NMBA will continue to conduct the youth clinic Bleaken started last week. The clinic for 6 to 18 age group will run until next week with NMBA members facilitating the weekday sessions from 9am to 12pm.

Last week, Bleaken held a four-day clinic and almost 100 children attended. Then on Friday, NMBA and Bleaken held a mini tournament for participants, who received certificates of attendance at the end of the clinic.

For more information about the summer clinic, contact Dick Guintu at 234-0740 or mackmack10212001@yahoo.com, Shirley Kim ay 287-6750 or shirleydlrkim@yahoo.com, and Merlie Tolentino at 235-3706 extension 158 or at merlie_tolentino@tanholdings.com.

## UFO

*From Page 28*

This Friday will also serve as a technical meeting and players and coaches of each team are required to be at the Civic Center pavilion at 6pm. UFO will entertain questions and other concerns about the league during the technical meeting.

So far, this year's UFO caging has attracted 21 teams. The masters division (40 and above) has lured six teams and two more squads will be accepted, while the junior category (21 to 39) has 12 teams and registration is already close. The midget division (15 to 20) has three teams and UFO will accommodate three more squads. Team names will only be announced once all squads turn over the needed requirements.

The three divisions are open to all nationalities, as UFO had already waived the Filipino-only eligibility rule. However players will still be screened on July 15 at 6pm at Civic Center before they are allowed to play league. Players must bring proof of age eligibility (drivers licensed, passport or birth certificate) and sign waiver forms.

Then on July 29, team managers, coaches, table officials, referees, and UFO officials are required to attend a final meeting at 6pm at the Civic Center to discuss details about the league's opening day.

Games in the UFO caging are initially scheduled every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

For more information about the UFO caging, contact Malasarte at 287-5525 or bong@malasarte.com, Wilfredo Ching at 287-6046 or boyching@pticom.com, and Paul Madriaga at 287-4501 or madriaga@pticom.com.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 50 | 33 | .602 | — |
| Boston | 49 | 35 | .583 | 1 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 47 | 38 | .553 | 4 |
| Toronto | 42 | 44 | .488 | 9 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 36 | 46 | .439 | 13 1/2 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 45 | 38 | .542 | — |
| Detroit | 45 | 41 | .523 | 1 1/2 |
| Chicago | 43 | 43 | .500 | 3 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 37 | 46 | .446 | 8 |
| Kansas City | 34 | 51 | .400 | 12 |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Los Angeles | 45 | 41 | .523 | — |
| Texas | 45 | 41 | .523 | — |
| Seattle | 42 | 43 | .494 | 2 1/2 |
| Oakland | 38 | 48 | .442 | 7 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 54 | 32 | .628 | — |
| Atlanta | 50 | 36 | .581 | 4 |
| New York | 43 | 42 | .506 | 10 1/2 |
| Washington | 43 | 43 | .500 | 11 |
| Florida | 38 | 47 | .447 | 15 1/2 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Louis | 46 | 40 | .535 | — |
| Milwaukee | 45 | 41 | .523 | 1 |
| Pittsburgh | 44 | 41 | .518 | 1 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 43 | 43 | .500 | 3 |
| Chicago | 35 | 51 | .407 | 11 |
| Houston | 29 | 57 | .337 | 17 |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Francisco | 48 | 38 | .558 | — |
| Arizona | 46 | 40 | .535 | 2 |
| Colorado | 41 | 44 | .482 | 6 1/2 |
| San Diego | 39 | 47 | .453 | 9 |
| Los Angeles | 37 | 49 | .430 | 11 |

**Yesterday's Games**

Washington 5, Chicago Cubs 4, 10 innings
Pittsburgh 5, Houston 3
Arizona 8, Milwaukee 6
San Diego 5, San Francisco 3
Philadelphia 1, Florida 0
St. Louis 1, Cincinnati 0
Atlanta 4, Colorado 1
N.Y. Mets 5, L.A. Dodgers 2
Toronto 9, Boston 7
Minnesota 7, Tampa Bay 0
Seattle 2, Oakland 1
Cleveland 6, N.Y. Yankees 3
Chicago White Sox 5, Kansas City 4
Texas 13, Baltimore 4
L.A. Angels 5, Detroit 1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# 2017 Mini Games Site Inspection Visit

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School Gymnasium manager James Feger, left, gestures to Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan, right, and executive director Andrew Minogue during the two officials' site inspection for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games last month.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White points at the proposed location of a football field in Koblerville.

Pacific Games Council executive director Andrew Minogue, second right, checks the rubber surface of the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White, right, accompanies Pacific Games Council executive director Andrew Minogue to the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts.

Refaluwasch Golf Association's Jess Wabol, far left, gestures to visiting officials.

Refaluwasch Golf Association's Jordon Kosam, right, explains the course at COP to Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan.

Local sports officials and Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue check on the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Local sports officials and Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue are on their way to the cafeteria of Hopwood Junior High School.

Local sports officials pose with Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue during a site visit at Coral Ocean Point.

Local and Pacific Games officials visit Laolao Bay Golf Resort, which is one of the proposed venues for the golf competition.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

# CNMI tracksters exceed expectations

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's triumph in the 2011 Oceania Regional Championships in Apia, Samoa proved that the Commonwealth is no longer a push-over in the group.

The four-member CNMI Team won one gold medal and four bronze in the regional competition late last month, holding its own against 20 other participating nations. The squad was composed of Yvonne Bennett, Ryan Ichihara, Clayton Kenty, and Sylvan Rangamar. NMA secretary Robin Sapong and coach Ron Olopai accompanied the lean CNMI delegation.

"I think the team exceeded expectations considering it was a small squad," said Northern Marianas Athletics development coach Elias Rangamar.

Bennett gave the Commonwealth its lone gold in the com-

See CNMI on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Yvonne Bennett, third from left, competes in the 200m run during last month's 2011 Oceania Regional Championships in Apia, Samoa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Clayton Kenty, right, competes in the 110m hurdles during last month's 2011 Oceania Regional Championships in Apia, Samoa.

## UFO caging opening rescheduled to July 31

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The kick off date for the 2011 UFO Basketball Friendship League has been pushed back from July 10 to July 31.

League chair and United Filipino Organization president Bong Malasarte said they have to delay the opening of the competition for three more weeks due to the unavailability of team uniforms and the TSL Sports Complex. Participating teams have yet to complete their respective uniforms, while the TSL Sports Complex will host the 2011 BANMI Women's Summer Basketball League until the end of this month.

Though it changed the league's opening date, UFO has stuck with the deadline for submission of rosters and entrance fee. Teams must turn over a copy of their 12-player lineup and $750 on or before July 8.

See UFO on Page 26

MAFEA-Konflikt's Darwin Barbo, left, goes for a layup against Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense-Mobil's Gil Gapor during their game in last year's UFO caging at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

# Umpire clinic wraps up Bleaken's visit

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Oceania Badminton regional development manager Nadia Bleaken capped her weeklong visit on Saipan with an umpire clinic last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

The evening clinic, which drew 30 members from the Northern Marianas Badminton Association, was an eye opener, as old habits were corrected and participants were introduced to the proper way of conducting a competition.

As a starter, Bleaken clarified to those in attendance that badminton does not have a set, unlike tennis. Instead, badminton has a game, which is a race-to-21 points contest. Once a player wins two games, he or she also wins a match.

The visiting official also reminded NMBA members the proper vocabulary used in badminton. A warning is given to an erring player not to someone who nears a game or match point.

Proper scoring, positioning on the court when a match is on, and introduction of players are discussed, too. Bleaken also emphasized the importance of

See UMPIRE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Oceania Badminton regional development manager Nadia Bleaken gestures to NMBA members during an umpires clinic last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

## Saipan Cyclers set MTB, road race

The Saipan Cyclers Association will have the SCA MTB & Road Race II on July 31 at Paupau Beach.

The event will have three divisions: MTB full and short course, and road bike course. Registration starts at 6am and the race begins at 7am. Entrance fee is only $10.

Bikers competing in the MTB full course will start at Paupau and then head to Banzai trail, Cowtown, Santa Clause lane (Grotto trail), and Autobahn and Kimikaze trails, turn left, go down to the road heading to Suicide cliff, turn left again on the jeep road behind the golf course, turn right on the trail that leads to the road to the golf course (before the million gallon tank), turn another left at the bottom of the hill, and head back to Paupau.

For the MTB short course, after the Santa Clause lane, riders will turn right on the pave road and then back to Paupau.

For the road bike category, the race will also begin at Paupau and riders will go up to Radar Station, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grotto, and Banzai Cliff before heading back to the starting line. *(Roselyn B. Monroyo)*